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WESTERN 'DISPLEASURE' WITH BELGRADE OUTCOME SCORED

LD221331Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Observer Yuriy Kornilov International Review: "The Reference Point is Detente"]

[Text] At the present time the results of the meeting of representatives of the 35 participant states in the all-European forum, which was held recently in Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia, according to the Helsinki accords, continue to be widely discussed and commented on in political and public circles of different countries and on the pages of the press. If the basic, chief feature from these commentaries is singled out, there is every reason for saying that an important, positive result of the Belgrade meeting is that the tremendous significance of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the need to continue making every effort to put fully into practice the provisions of the final act signed in Helsinki were once again most forcefully confirmed at the Belgrade meeting. The final document adopted at Belgrade expressed the determination of the governments of the participant countries to continue the process of consolidating security and cooperation in Europe. By reflecting in its new Constitution all the 10 principles of mutual relations among states which are enshrined in the final act, the Soviet Union has convincingly demonstrated its firm political will to march along the path laid down at Helsinki. During the Belgrade forum, the positive and constructive role of socialist diplomacy was again manifested in full measure. In the halls of the Sava Palace where this forum took place there was a broad exchange of opinions surrounding the program of the future, which was put forward by the USSR and other socialist countries, and aimed at the deepening and strengthening of detente. The program's turning point consists of ideas and proposals aimed at ending physical preparation for war, supplementing political detente with military detente and expanding all-European cooperation in such spheres as environmental protection, transportation, power and others.

The obstructionist stance of the United States and certain other NATO countries made it impossible to include in the final Helsinki document a number of important Soviet and socialist states' proposals aimed at the materialization of detente. However, the fact that it was precisely these proposals that were not only the focus of attention at the meeting itself but also received the active support of the broad European and international public attests that they will play a substantial role in strengthening European security. The meeting in Belgrade once again confirmed that the USSR and the other socialist countries are marching in the vanguard of the struggle for deepening detente. Commenting on the results of this meeting, many commentators quite rightly note that at the present time socialist diplomacy, which at Belgrade advocated detente in the military sphere and the curbing of the arms race, is actively and persistently continuing the same line outside the context of Belgrade too. In this connection one can note the broad positive reactions which have been engendered in various countries by the USSR's proposal to the United States and other Western states that agreement be reached on the mutual renunciation of neutron weapons production. The international public also welcomes the profoundly peace-loving initiative of eight socialist countries--the USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland, Romania and Czechoslovakia--which submitted for examination by the Geneva Disarmament Committee a draft convention on the prohibition of these weapons.

But the Belgrade forum not only demonstrated the profound adherence of the peoples to the cause of peace; it confirmed that movement along the path of making detente irreversible is not a journey along a straight and smooth freeway but is an acute political struggle on many planes, each stage of which is taken only after a battle. It is no secret that, during the discussions in the Sava Palace, the U.S. delegation and certain of its kindred spirits from the NATO countries directed their efforts not toward a businesslike and constructive discussion of vital problems but toward emasculating the essence of the final act, upsetting its strict political balance, transforming the Belgrade forum into some sort of "trial" of certain countries by others, into an arena of confrontation, and issuing a challenge to the socialist countries in the sphere of human rights and cooperation in humanitarian fields. Through the efforts primarily of the socialist states and also a number of other countries aware of their responsibility for the cause of detente, a resolute rebuff was given at Belgrade to all those who, under the false pretext of "interpreting" and "deepening" the final act, wanted to revise the Helsinki accords.

Now, after the completion of the Belgrade forum, certain circles in the West, not hiding their displeasure at the fact that their attempts to use that forum for justifying interference in the affairs of other countries suffered a fiasco, are trying to distort the position of the USSR, to rush up the positive program launched by the USSR and to whip up a slanderous fiction alleging that the Soviet Union "is reluctant to fulfill the Helsinki accords." In certain Western capitals, and above all in Washington, appeals are also ringing out for the continuation of attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of socialist countries, as manifested at the Belgrade forum.

Well, the Washington politicians are free to make these--putting it mildly--strange moves. But, the question arises, for whom are these statements intended? It is well known that Soviet people enjoy the broad and genuinely democratic rights enshrined in the Soviet Constitution. It is also well known what respect for civil rights in the so-called free West looks like in actual fact. In the United States, for instance, 10 million people are deprived of the elementary right to work, 30 million citizens are living below the poverty line, racial discrimination is rampant in the country and millions of people come under degrading surveillance by the FBI: Of 19 international agreements concerning the observance of human rights, the United States has signed only 5, and then it has not fulfilled those.

However the enemies of detente oppose it, the cause of detente is gaining strength and the work on the implementation of the final act is suffusing European political life more and more, and the principle enshrined in this document are being reflected increasingly frequently in interstate agreements and accords. For the Soviet state the line toward the practical implementation of the decisions adopted at Helsinki is an integral part of the Leninist course toward peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems.

The chief aims of our peace-loving foreign policy, Ambassador Yu. M. Vorontsov, head of the USSR delegation at the Belgrade meeting, stressed when speaking recently at a press conference, are formulated in the well-known program furthering the struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the freedom and independence of the peoples adopted at the 25th CPSU Congress. At the center of this program is the struggle for strengthening peace and security, for deepening detente, for the development of peaceful co-operation and for ending the arms race.

Our country will continue unwaveringly to implement this principle, consistent and profoundly peace-loving foreign policy line.

SOVIET PRESS MARKS WORLD DAY OF STRUGGLE TO END APARTHEID

LD210906Y Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March, 21, TASS--The Soviet press marks the international day of struggle for elimination of racial discrimination which ushers in today in international years of struggle against apartheid. On the international day of struggle for elimination of racial discrimination, Vitaliy Korionov writes in PRAVDA, the Soviet people unanimously pledge their solidarity with those who, fighting for human rights, have fallen victim to reaction. "The struggle against racism, he stresses, is an integral part of the battle for universal peace. To eliminate the disgraceful seat of colonialism and racism in the south of Africa means to make a major step towards peace in that area, and also to improve the international situation as a whole."

Vitaliy Korionov recalls that the United Nations organization has passed a number of important documents aimed at elimination of racism and apartheid. But supporters of racism, he points out, are not thinking of putting these decisions into life. For the imperialist forces of the West the apartheid regime is a support in achieving their strategic and political aims in Africa and the south Atlantic.

The just cause of people's struggle for national independence, against racial oppression, the article runs, meets invariable and consistent support from the Soviet Union. This stand has manifest itself once again in the Soviet Union's statement on full elimination of the vestiges of colonialism, racism and apartheid which was circulated as an official document of the 32nd session of the U.N. General Assembly. The Communist Party and the Soviet state, Vitaliy Korionov stresses, have done much in furthering this objective. "The fighters for peace and freedom of peoples know: The CPSU, the Soviet state will continue to scarely follow the Leninist principles of their foreign policy."

Racism, the newspaper SOVETSKAYA KULTURA writes, is an inevitable creation of imperialism. Exactly therefore, it assumes the most sophisticated and ugly forms in the United States of America, the largest and most developed imperialist power.

The SOTISALISTICHSKAYA INDUSTRIYA carries an article "a myth of American democracy". This article is on racial discrimination which continues to perpetuate material and social inequality of black and white people. The article points out that in the United States the black people are subjected to discrimination in education, medical attendance, in political life of the country. "An indictment to apartheid" is the title of an article in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. The newspaper stresses that despite imperialism's support, apartheid is doomed.

Other newspapers print article on the international day of struggle for elimination of racial discrimination and the beginning of the international year of struggle against apartheid.

West Supports Racism

LD211430Y Moscow TASS in English 1311 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 21, TASS--The TASS commentator, Sergey Kulik, writes: International day of action for the elimination of racial discrimination is being observed today in conformity with a United Nations resolution. This inaugurates the international anti-apartheid year. The ideology of apartheid is the very foundation of the policy of the Republic of South Africa. In practice, it leads to deprivation of civil rights of the overwhelming majority of all "non-white" residents of the R.S.A.

Of late, the theory of apartheid found its most concentrated expression in the policy of bantustanisation. On the hypocritical plea of "granting independence" and "maintaining the national original nature" of the Africans, the Pretoria government is forcibly re-settling them in tribal reservations, bantustans, at the same time depriving them of South African citizenship and means of existence. Inside the boundaries of bantustans there are no fertile lands, mineral deposits or industrial centers.

Terrifying are the statistics of the apartheid regime which rests on lawlessness, police terror and violence. In the last ten years alone, over 750 people were executed in the R.S.A. 650,000 people are languishing in jails of that country which has been converted by the racialists into a gigantic prison, and only a few of them have been charged. Hundreds of Africans, including many under age, were shot dead by racialists during last year's peaceful demonstrations in Soweto and other big South African towns. The Pretoria authorities support the illegal Rhodesian regime, are hatching intrigues and plots against the neighbouring independent states of Angola, Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana and Lesotho.

The protracted existence of apartheid is explained, above all, by the broad support Pretoria is rendered by imperialist monopolies and Western powers, above all, NATO members. Apartheid ensures them tremendous incomes because it makes possible the exploitation of the mass of rightless Africans. Thus, the Republic of South Africa accounts for more than 2,000 million dollars out of the 5,000 million dollars invested by the United States in Africa in the last ten years. The investments of British monopolies in the R.S.A. are estimated at 5,000 million dollars or more than half all British capital investments abroad. It cannot be ignored, therefore, that behind the alluring "initiatives" of some Western powers, allegedly designed to solve the problems of the south of Africa, lies their desire to retain their interests and privileges in that region, to legalize colonialist-racist rule in a renewed shape.

NONALIGNED STATES' GENEVA BODY CONDEMNS ISRAELI INVASION

LD221510Y Moscow TASS in English 1255 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, March 22, TASS--The Coordination Bureau of the non-aligned countries has issued here a statement, stigmatizing "the crying act of aggression committed by Israel against Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the Israeli expansionist policy". Israel's armed attack, the document points out, imperils the very existence of the Palestinian people. The Israeli action still further aggravates the explosive situation in that area and is a direct threat to international peace and security. Urgent international actions are therefore necessary, the document stresses.

Through their Coordination Bureau the non-aligned countries reaffirm once again that solution of the Middle East problem is possible only through recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and the right to have their own state, through the release of all Arab lands occupied by Israel since 1967, and unswerving implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. They express solidarity with the Lebanese people and declare full support for their efforts aimed at immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli troops, which invaded their land, and restoration of their sovereignty in the south of Lebanon and in all the country.

The non-aligned countries, the statement stresses, reaffirm their full support of the Palestinian people and their vanguard--the Palestine Liberation Organization--at this crucial period of their just struggle.

CARTER SHIFTING U.S. POLICY FROM ARMS TALKS TO ARMS RACE

LD231030Y Moscow in English to North America 0330 GMT 23 Mar 78 LD

[Vladimir Bolshakov commentary]

[Text] It would seem that lately, when outlines of a new SALT agreement had shaped, it is particularly necessary to treasure what has been achieved. At least the prospect that talks would end on such an important issue as a mutually acceptable accord on disarmament dictates not to take steps that would have a negative effect on the process of relaxation of tensions. But statements by leading American policymakers made during the past few days lay emphasis exactly on more intensive war preparations in the United States and other NATO countries, on deployment of new systems of weapons of mass destruction.

In this connection the public has been alarmed by a speech President Carter made last Friday in the city of Wake Forest in North Carolina. The President actually repeated worn-out claims about some sort of a Soviet military threat, claims usually made by the more bellicose hawks in the Pentagon. Such claims which were so widespread in the years of the cold war are now made exactly by such leaders in the United States who do not accept relaxation of tensions and are doing their utmost to interfere with the development of Soviet-American relations and to prevent the completion of the SALT-II talks. It is revealing that immediately after his speech in Wake Forest--where he outlined plans for the manufacture of the latest armaments in the United States--the President inspected the aircraft carrier Eisenhower in an area where a naval exercise was being held. For 5 hours the President watched the exercise, which consisted of a game to repel a mythical Soviet armed attack on the United States.

As the American press reported in this connection, the Pentagon organized the exercise to draw attention to new types of weapons for which the military industrial complex has been pressing to get appropriations for a long time now. The New York DAILY NEWS wrote for one that military circles make no secret of the fact that they would like to use the President's appearance at the exercise to launch a new effort to increase military appropriations. Naturally both the call to deploy new systems of weapons contained in the President's Wake Forest speech and the naval exercise involving the President indicate a strong emphasis by the administration on a further expansion of the arms race. But that does not tally at all with statements by the administration about a desire for cooperation with the Soviet Union and for promoting peace through greater relaxation of tensions.

This point was made in a commentary issued last Saturday by the official Soviet news agency, TASS, about President Carter's speech. The commentary underlined that according to the message in the President's statement, accents are being apparently shifted in the American foreign policy from the earlier proclaimed course to insure American security through talks to curbing the arms race and through promoting relaxation of tensions to a source of threats and worsening of tensions. This TASS commentary that appeared in many Soviet newspapers has produced a strong response in the United States.

President Carter himself declared in this view that his speech was not allegedly a threat against the Soviet Union but a statement of fact. But where are facts to support the worn-out claim that the Soviet Union threatens the United States? There were and there are no such facts.

On the other hand there are a great many facts to show that the Soviet Union is following a foreign policy of peace and wants to agree about limiting and reducing armaments. One such fact is the report by Senator George McGovern who recently visited the USSR and other socialist countries in Eastern Europe.

The Senator declared bluntly in his report that the leaders of the Soviet Union and East European socialist countries sincerely want peace and are doing their best to promote it. Senator McGovern said in his report that in the USSR, where 20 million people died at the hands of fascist invaders during the last war, the people realized what suffering a war brings to them, and so they will never resort to the mad designs Moscow is claimed to have by the hawks in the Pentagon in order to justify the arms race in the United States.

In our times it is possible to safeguard lasting peace and security of nations only by stopping the arms race and further easing tensions. Unfortunately President Carter's speech shows a departure from the solution of these real and pressing problems.

MASS DEMONSTRATIONS, ARAB GROUP OPPOSE U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

LD222134Y Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 22, TASS--(TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko). A massive demonstration was held in the American capital in protest against the Israeli aggression in Lebanon and support for Tel Aviv's expansionist policy by the United States. Hundreds of people gathered outside the White House, where talks are being held between President J. Carter and visiting Israeli Prime Minister Begin. The demonstrators carried posters saying "Stop the Zionist aggression!" "Israel, get out of Lebanon!" "USA, stop arms supplies to Israel!"

The demonstrators were met at the entrance to the Capitol by reinforced police duty details with dogs. The police cordoned off all approaches to the Congress building. The demonstrators distributed leaflets saying that Israel had launched a preplanned aggression against Lebanon with the aim of physical destruction of the Arab people of Palestine.

The massive attack of the Israeli military against Lebanon, the leaflets stressed, is a direct outcome of the policy of the USA granting billions of dollars to Israel, endlessly building up its military potential and giving all round political support for Tel Aviv. This policy makes the United States an accomplice of Israel in its attempts to destroy the Palestinians as a people.

A massive demonstration of protest against the crimes of the Israeli military encouraged by the United States was also held outside the building of the Israeli Consulate in San Francisco.

The National Association of Arab Americans also condemned Washington's support for the Israeli aggressors. The statement by the association stresses that the USA is responsible for the fresh crimes of the Israeli military, as it has armed Israel to such an extent that Tel Aviv can launch with impunity any military adventures in the Middle East.

CARTER-BEGIN TALKS END, DRAFTING PROBLEMS DELAY STATEMENT

LD230842Y Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 23 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 23, TASS--Talks between U.S. President Carter and Israeli Premier Begin ended in the White House. A White House spokesman said that a statement on the results of the talks would be postponed because of difficulties in drafting.

President Carter said that the sides had held an all-sided exchange of opinion on the Middle East problem. They considered, among other things, the results of the recent American-Egyptian talks and also ways of resuming the separate dialogue between Cairo and Tel Aviv. According to Carter, the United States re-expressed profound support for Israel's security and prosperity.

In this context, the American press emphasizes that Washington, far from denouncing Israel's armed aggression against sovereign Lebanon, factually supported this barbarous action. The Baltimore SUN says the President believes that Israel had done everything that could be expected from it with regard to southern Lebanon in the present stage. According to the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, Israel asked the United States to increase American military aid by 50 percent. At present, Israel already receives 1,000 million dollars worth of arms annually from the United States.

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP URGED TO REJECT MACHINATIONS OF HAWKS

LD221451Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 15 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Article written for ZARYA VOSTOKA by Vladimir Chervyakov, member of the ZA RUZBEZHOM editorial board: "Contradictory America: Detente or Confrontation?"]

[Excerpts] Recent years have seen great qualitative changes in relations between our country and the United States, marked by a move away from confrontation and cold war toward detente and cooperation. Since 1972 the USSR and the United States have signed 61 important documents--treaties, agreements, conventions, joint communiques and statements and memorandums on understandings on a number of problems. Both countries have acknowledged and enshrined in document form the principles of peaceful coexistence as the only basis for their relations with each other. This is the command of the times, and it can be sensed in a variety of areas.

President J. Carter has also repeatedly stressed that the U.S. administration favors an improvement in relations with the Soviet Union.

Who, then, is placing all manner of obstacles in the way of the further development of cooperation between our countries? Indeed it is no secret that it has slowed down recently, and through no fault of the Soviet Union.

It would be difficult to give a concise answer to this question. People in the United States are constantly quarreling and fighting over the detente policy and its future.

During my 3-week stay in that country I heard various opinions on this score both in the U.S. Congress, where I attended subcommittee hearings on questions of Soviet-American relations, and during conversations with businessmen, prominent public figures and colleagues--American journalists. Some favor detente in the belief that it is equally advantageous to both the United States and the Soviet Union; others describe it as a one-way street and do not conceal their desire to "adjust" it in favor of the United States; yet others, like Professor Conquest, whom I heard speak in the U.S. Congress, are calling for a return to confrontation and still hope to "stimulate changes in Soviet society" (such illusions are still alive in America).

The opponents of detente have chosen as the target for their attacks the key question of the development of Soviet-American relations at the present stage--the current Strategic Arms Limitation Talks--the aim being to prevent their successful completion.
[paragraph continues]

I was in Washington when another offensive was being launched against the agreement in preparation. The New York TIMES published a long article by Richard Burt about the talks between the USSR and the United States, allegedly based on a leak of secret information.

For the "hawks," above all in Congress, this article was a signal to act. Manipulating the figures contained in it, they accused the administration of "making too many concessions to the Russians," thus permitting them--the Russians--to gain a dangerous advantage over the United States in the eighties. The next day U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; 2 days later he was up before the Arms Control Subcommittee. But, as it turned out, these hasty hearings did nothing to reassure the public--which logically should have been the case.

The press, radio and television have done all they can to sow doubts and distrust among Americans over an agreement which has not been concluded. Senator Gary Hart called it an attempt to "smother the baby in the cradle." There was more and more talk about the agreement "encouraging frenzied resistance in the U.S. Senate" when the time came for ratification. This was blatant pressure on the talks' participants, an attempt, as the American press admitted, "to force Moscow to make concessions on the main controversial issues."

This attempt can be linked to the U.S. military-industrial complex, which has actually initiated a further twist in the arms race, and whose far-reaching, ambitious plans promise immense profits, namely--to secure openings for the production of new types of weapons, especially nuclear weapons. The old propagandist camouflage has been dragged out once again--the notorious "Soviet threat," allegations about the United States lagging behind in strategic terms and so forth.

It has long been known that the American "hawks" always resort to this hackneyed method when they are worried that Congress is not going to satisfy their appetites, especially when they get bigger every year. The Pentagon intends to raise military appropriations to \$172.7 billion by 1983 compared with this year's budget of \$116.7 billion, which, incidentally, is a U.S. record.

This established pattern was referred to recently in the New York TIMES magazine by Richard Barnett, head of the American Political Studies Institute. In the fifties the American bourgeois press was filled with reports about "the United States lagging behind in numbers of bombers." As a result, Congress gave its blessing to the construction of a fleet of B-47 and B-52 bombers. It turned out later that the number of Soviet bombers had been overstated by 3-4 times, but it was too late.

The ballyhoo about the "missile gap" between the United States and the Soviet Union was used in the sixties to launch production of MIRVed warheads. It turned out that the size of the gap had been exaggerated dozens of times over. Curious figures have been made public recently by Congressman L. Aspin, who has analyzed the forecasts of the development of the Soviet Navy made by the Pentagon between 1969 and 1974: 57 percent of them were overstated to persuade Congress to increase U.S. naval appropriations.

When analyzing the "arguments" of current advocates of the military-industrial complex, you automatically think of them as singing the same old song. For example, the American press keeps harping on the "vulnerability of land-based American missile forces." According to the Washington POST, the authors of this theory believe that "Russia is capable of destroying American missile forces in a single strike and making the United States and its civilian population its hostage." [paragraph continues]

You might have understood them if they had been citing this argument (essentially rubbish, of course) in favor of concluding a new agreement with the Soviet Union on strategic offensive arms limitations. Far from it. Apparently, its authors are advocating an increase in appropriations for the development of the latest mobile missile, known as the MX.

The allocation of funds for the development of the neutron bomb, which is to be deployed on European territory, was accompanied in the United States by a big ballyhoo over the "tactical nuclear forces gap" between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. There was a serious discussion of the possibility of a "blitzkrieg" by the socialist countries, and it was maintained that their forces were capable of reaching the Rhine in 48 hours. The neutron bomb was described as the remedy against this "invasion."

The notorious "Committee on the Present Danger," which has assembled the most rabid anti-Soviet politicians and the most inveterate apologists of the military monopolies from the ranks of retired generals and admirals, are particularly active in fueling fears. In their zeal they even go so far as to state that "in the military sphere the United States is in much the same position as Britain in 1938, when all of Europe was under the shadow of Hitler's Germany."

Practical Americans recognize the danger of this kind of logic and are aware of where it could lead if pursued. Recently the name George Kennan has frequently cropped up in the American press in the context of the future of Soviet-American relations. A former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union and currently director of the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies, he is regarded in the United States as a leading authority in this area. It is worth recalling that Kennan authored the so-called "doctrine of the containment of communism", which contributed to a considerable extent to the unleashing of the arms race. Today Kennan is opposed to fueling fears about the Soviet "military threat" and believes that the United States should not accelerate the development of neutron bombs and MX missiles, since this could hinder talks with the Soviet Union. He advocates constructive cooperation in areas which correspond to the interests of both states. Senators E. Kennedy and C. Mathias and many others have similar views on the deployment of cruise missiles.

Near the White House in Washington I witnessed a mass demonstration by Americans against the production of cruise missiles and the neutron bomb. The demonstration was joined not only by Washingtonians but also by people from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and many other cities. I heard the same words from one of its organizers, Rosen, national coordinator of the center for reducing military expenditure:

"We are against the neutron bomb, not just because it is dangerous in itself--it kills people, leaving property intact. It jeopardizes the future of the talks with the Soviet Union on nuclear arms limitation."

During the discussion of the results of a U.S. visit by a delegation of Soviet parliamentarians at a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session, L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stressed that the implementation of plans for the production of the neutron weapon would substantially complicate the situation. Recalling the Soviet proposal on mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron weapon, L.I. Brezhnev said: "The sole alternative to renunciation of the production of this type of weapon is a new qualitative leap in the lethal weapons race. It is impossible not to see this."

The U.S. leadership is currently faced with the need to adopt important decisions in the very near future on which the future of Soviet-American relations will greatly depend: Whether common sense ultimately wins out, or the forces seeking confrontation with our country prevail.

"Thirty years after the beginning of the cold war, encountering the consequences of confrontation with the Soviet Union, we Americans are at a crossroads," the New York TIMES Magazine wrote recently. "Depending on what path we choose, we will either find or lose an opportunity, so rare these days, of bringing a certain stability into the world situation."

Ordinary Americans hope that these decisions will be in keeping with their aspirations.

U.S. VIOLATING HAGUE, MONTREAL PACTS IN BRAZINSKAS CASE

LD221642Y Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 22, TASS--In connection with U.S. spokesmen repeatedly stressing of late their "concern" over terrorism in various parts of the world, a TASS correspondent at a State Department press conference yesterday, asked how could such "concern" be reconciled with the actual sheltering by the American authorities of two terrorists--the father and son Brazinskas, who hijacked a Soviet plane, killing an air hostess in the process.

The two air pirates, who perpetrated a grave criminal offense, are in the USA where their case is being shuttled from one office to another, and they are charged not of air piracy or murder, but of illegally residing in the United States. Competent quarters indicate that the case may last endlessly, all the while, the bandits enjoying freedom and suffering no inconveniences. Repeated demands by Soviet authorities and public opinion for the criminals' extradition, remain without answer.

An official spokesman of the State Department replied that the question had already been "explained" by his department, and he had nothing to add to what was said before. The "explanations", as was reported earlier, boil down to the case of the Brazinskas being under the jurisdiction of the immigration and naturalization service. The only thing awaiting the criminals could be a demand to leave the United States. The American administration has no intention even to examine the question of extraditing them to the Soviet authorities. The State Department spokesman cynically declared that the concern of the U.S. over international terrorism does not cover the case of the Brazinskas.

Another spokesman of the State Department informed a TASS correspondent that the State Department does not regard a hijacking of Soviet aircraft to be an act of terrorism or crime.

Actions by the American authorities are indirect contradiction to the Hague convention on controlling illegal capture of aircraft, signed by the United States as well. Under this international agreement the states took the commitment either to extradite air pirates to the country against which the crime had been committed, or severely punish the criminals.

Washington's actions also contradict the Montreal convention on controlling illegal acts aimed against the safety of civil aviation, also signed by the USA. These actions are in crying contradiction with the resolutions on this matter adopted by the U.N. General Assembly, where the United States repeatedly pledged to seek cooperation with all countries to avert acts of terrorism and punish the culprits.

The U.S. position on the Brazinskas case is a glaring example of Washington's hypocrisy, as it tramples upon international agreements and U.N. resolutions, thereby actually encouraging international terrorism.

JUDICIAL PERSECUTIONS IN U.S. REMINISCENT OF MCCARTHYISM

LD221347Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Andrey Tolkunov article: "The Virus of McCarthyism"]

[Text] U.S. judicial authorities' reprisals against political prisoners are arousing growing indignation among honorable Americans. Opposing the lawlessness perpetrated against the "Wilmington 10," J. Harris, G. Merrit, A. Shakur, D. Tibbs and many other fighters for civil rights, certain American lawyers have given wide publicity to instances of outright forgery, false evidence, blackmail and manipulation of facts in fabricating such "cases." They indicate flagrant violations of civil rights, the American version of which is now being so intensely propagandized by some people.

Such "dissidence" arouses the fury of official judicial authorities. The "guardians of the law" have launched a campaign of persecution and blackmail, trying to discredit those who do not agree with the official version of the convicted people's "guilt."

Recently the well-known lawyer Lennox Hinds, who came out in defense of the poetess A. Shakur, was threatened with expulsion from the bar association--which, in effect, means the denial of the right to practice law. The lawyer who came out in defense of the black American civil rights fighter is accused of daring, after studying the case thoroughly, to call A. Shakur's trial a fiction and a parody of a court examination.

Gerry Paul, a lawyer from North Carolina, is being threatened by local rascists in judge's cloaks not only with expulsion from the bar association but even with legal action. What for? A statement by the national union for the struggle against racial and political repression, in defense of Paul says that his "guilt" lies in the fact that for many years "he has defended hundreds of men and women in the South who were victims of racism." That is why, the statement claims, the lawyer has been obliged to wage an unequal battle against the whole judicial system of North Carolina, which won dubious notoriety for "justice" in the case of the "Wilmington 10."

The persecutions of progressive lawyers are being carried out by the same methods used in the darkest years of McCarthyism. Those who raised their voices in defense of political prisoners are being persecuted solely for having honorably fulfilled their civic and professional duty. This testifies that the American system of justice is unjust at its very foundations.

The virus of McCarthyism, which became the symbol of the most shameless repression of human rights, still lives in American society to this day. It has infected not only the judicial system but also other institutions of power within the U.S. system, since this system is based on flouting the working people's rights and totally suppressing freedom of thought.

BRIEFS

TOURISM TALKS--On 20 March, Nikitin, head of the Main Administration for Foreign Tourism attached to the USSR Council of Ministers, received Chavez, assistant secretary for tourism at the U.S. Department of Commerce. During the talks, opinions were exchanged on questions of Soviet-American relations in the field of tourism. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD]

WARSAW PACT EXERCISES IN ROMANIA REPORTED

LD211714Y Moscow TASS in English 1712 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 21, TASS--In accordance with a plan of the joint command, command and staff exercises of operations headquarters on maps of the Bulgarian, Romanian and Soviet armies were held on the territory of Romania from March 14 to 21.

The exercises were supervised by the Commander-in-Chief of the Joint Armed Forces of Warsaw Treaty member-states Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov.

Practised in the course of the exercises were questions of conducting joint combat operations by services and branches of the allied armies.

The exercises passed in an organised manner. They facilitated further coordination among the highest staffs of the Armies of Warsaw Treaty member-states, the perfection of interaction among them and consolidation of military cooperation.

Taking part at separate stages of the exercises were the Bulgarian Defence Minister General of the Army Dobri Dzhurov and the Romanian Minister of National Defence Colonel-General Ion Coman.

HUSAK NOTES SURMOUNTING OF 1948, 1968 CRISES

LD230911Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "With Fraternal Parties: A Tested Course"]

[Text] Prague, 18 March--At a CPCZ Central Committee plenum which has taken place here a report on the results of the fulfillment of the 15th CPCZ Congress decisions and the party's further tasks was delivered by G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. Every day, he said, our people become more convinced that the program adopted at the congress meets the republic's needs, conforms with its potentials, insures the dynamic development of the economy, science and culture, augments social achievements and is directed toward the working people's good and happiness.

Dwelling on questions of the party's work the speaker noted that the CPCZ is successfully fulfilling its duty as society's leading force. This was confirmed by the accountability and election meetings and conferences held recently. Since the 15th CPCZ Congress the party's ranks have continued to grow. In the last 2 years the number of party members has grown by more than 92,000 people.

Speaking of the increased demands on the political and ideological growth of communists Husak stressed that the party must give unrelenting attention to ideological work and the education of people in a spirit of socialist patriotism and proletarian, socialist internationalism. The modern conditions of the class struggle in the world, the unleashing of anticommunist campaigns aimed against the Soviet Union and the other countries of socialism and attempts to distort our teaching require that work in the ideological sphere be on the offensive and principled.

Offensive actions in the ideological struggle against our opponent are particularly topical now, when we are witnessing intensifying anti-Czechoslovak campaigns, Husak stressed. Our class enemies cannot forgive us for their defeat in February 1948 and will not reconcile themselves to the fact that their hopes of a counterrevolutionary coup in the crisis years of 1968-1969 were not justified. [paragraph continues]

The bourgeoisie and its henchmen cannot forgive the fact that, thanks to the fraternal assistance of the socialist countries, the Marxist-Leninist forces in the CPCZ overcame the crisis, purged the party and strengthened it on Leninist principles, led society out of the crisis and are leading it along the path of dynamic development and the further strengthening of fraternal and alliance relations with the USSR and the socialist countries. From the distance of the 10 years which have passed our party and our people can fully evaluate how necessary the help of the USSR and other socialist countries was for the defense of socialism in Czechoslovakia and how correct all our actions were after the CPCZ Central Committee April 1969 plenum. Dwelling on questions of Czechoslovak foreign policy activity Husak stressed that its basis remains indestructible friendship and alliance and constantly deepening cooperation with the USSR.

The results of the 2 years which have passed since the 15th CPCZ Congress, Husak said in conclusion, testify that the republic's working people under the leadership of the CPCZ have achieved significant successes in building a developed socialist society and that the party's policy meets with the active support of the whole people.

KAPITONOV RECEIVES LCY DELEGATION AT CPSU CC

LD231043Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Conversation at CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty links between the CPSU and the LCY, a delegation of LCY party workers headed by L. Vujovic, member of the Executive Committee of the League of Communists of Serbia Central Committee Presidium, was in the Soviet Union 13 through 20 March. During their stay in our country the members of the delegation familiarized themselves with the CPSU's activity on a broad range of questions regarding the development of the Soviet political system under conditions of developed socialism. They had meetings and talks at the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Section, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the AUCCTU, the Lithuanian CP Central Committee, the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers and the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of State and the Law, and familiarized themselves with the work of city, rayon and rural soviets.

On 20 March the delegation was received by I.V. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who had participated in a conversation which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Taking part in the conversation were N.A. Petrovichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Section; G.A. Kiselev, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee Section, and also I. Djukic, Yugoslav charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR.

SOLOMENTSEV RECEIVES SERBIAN COUNCIL LEADER CAREBIC

LD201557Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, received some guests from Yugoslavia who are in Moscow on a working [delovoy] visit--a government delegation of the Socialist Republic of Serbia headed by D. Ckrebic, president of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Serbia. A warm, friendly conversation ensued in which J. Smole, Yugoslav ambassador to the USSR, participated.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EAST EUROPE

COMMUNIQUE AT END OF QADDUMI VISIT TO SFRY NOTED

LD221746Y Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade--[words indistinct] Belgrade and (?the Palestine Liberation) organization strongly condemn Israel's aggression against Lebanon and believe that it is a direct violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that independent and nonaligned state says a communique published here on the visit to Yugoslavia by member of the Executive Committee, head of the Political Department of the PLO Faruq Qaddumi.

Yugoslavia expresses full support for and solidarity with the PLO in its struggle in defense of the Arab people of Palestine from the Israeli aggression in Lebanon. The communique also notes the need and importance of strengthening solidarity between Arab countries and of greater coordination of their actions as the main condition for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The Yugoslav side, the communique says, reiterated support for the sovereign national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including the right to self-determination and creation of an independent Palestinian state. The crisis in the Middle East can only be overcome without [words indistinct] of the Palestinian question.

KOSYGIN OFFERS CONDOLENCES ON BULGARIAN AIR DISASTER

LD231045Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 78 p 2 LD

[Text] TASS--A. N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, sent a telegram to S. Todorov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, in which he expressed sincere sympathy in connection with the air crash which occurred 16 March in the vicinity of Vratsa involving a Bulgarian passenger aircraft and resulting in loss of life, and conveyed deep condolences to the relatives and friends of those who perished.

KULAKOV, RYABOV, KATUSHEV ATTEND BULGARIAN RECEPTION

LD180244Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Zhulev, the ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the Soviet Union, today organized a reception on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the USSR and Bulgaria. Present at the reception were Kulakov, member of the Politburo and CPSU Central Committee secretary; Ryabov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Klychev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Katushev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, leaders of ministries and departments as well responsible staff of the CPSU Central Committee, military leaders and activists of the Soviet-Bulgarian friendship society.

PZPR PLENUM DISCUSSES AGRICULTURAL, FOOD PROBLEMS

LD221141Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "PZPR Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Warsaw, 18 March--A routine PZPR Central Committee plenum has been held here. On the agenda are the verification of the execution of the decisions of the PZPR Central Committee October (1974) Plenum on the development of agriculture and the raising of food production and further tasks in this sphere.

E. Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, spoke at the plenum. He said that Poland's further development and the improvement of the working people's living standards require that special attention be spent on issues like housing construction and food production. The main points of the program for the development of agriculture and the production of food commodities outlined by the PZPR Central Committee 1974 Plenum have been fulfilled. But in recent years the planned agricultural output growth has not been achieved because of unfavorable climatic conditions. Therefore the all-round mobilization of forces is essential to increase agricultural production.

E. Gierek noted the great socioeconomic significance of agricultural development and the foodstuffs production in which the state invests large sums. The long-term comprehensive program elaborated 3.5 years ago pointed the way to the accelerated modernization of this economic sector and the effective solution of the food problem. The speaker emphasized that the PZPR's agrarian policy serves the common interests of the peasants, workers and all society and enjoys universal support. Its correctness was fully confirmed at the second all-Poland conference of the PZPR. The party's agrarian policy is a component of the strategy for socioeconomic development and socialist building in Poland.

E. Gierek urged all communists and nonparty people to fight for the better and fuller utilization of land stock production potential, the all-round expansion of fodder production, and the raising of the efficiency of agriculture.

The mobilization of all social forces in the Polish countryside to the fulfillment of the tasks set, E. Gierek noted, is an essential condition for further progress. Since the 6th party congress the public sector of agriculture has been constantly strengthening and expanding. It is becoming an important factor of changes in the countryside. In the next few years important significance will be attached to the construction and modernization of agricultural machinery plants and especially to the reconstruction of the tractor industry--the basis of agricultural mechanization.

Many important socioeconomic problems have been resolved during the years of the people's power in Poland, E. Gierek said in conclusion. The satisfaction of the working people's growing requirements is the program aim and main content of the PZPR's policy.

BRIEFS

ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH YUGOSLAVIA--An agreement was signed in Moscow today between the USSR and Yugoslavia on cooperation in the construction of the hydroenergy complex Djerdap II on the Danube. Soviet experts are working out the plan for it and [words indistinct]. With the fitting-out of the power station Yugoslavia will acquire eight generators with an overall output of over 10,000 kw. On the left bank of the Danube in Romania, also with Soviet participation, a similar power station will be built, the plans for delivering its energy-producing equipment being under way at the moment. Yugoslavia has suggested that the Soviet Union should take part in the construction of several more power stations. [Text] [Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2030 GMT 17 Mar 78 LD]

HAIG NOTES 'DESIRABILITY' OF NATO HAVING NEUTRON BOMB

LD222005Y Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 22, TASS--The NATO commander in Europe, Alexander Haig, addressing a press conference in the Pentagon, spoke again for a further build-up of the military potential of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc. He emphasized the "desirability" of equipping NATO with neutron weapons claiming that the rejection of the weapon would place the USA and its allies in Western Europe before a grave danger. The neutron bomb, said the general, is necessary for the North Atlantic bloc to equalize the balance of forces in central Europe. The Alexander Haig cause deep concern in view of the U.S. administration plans in the near future to announce its decision concerning the production of the neutron bomb. Observers regard these calls as a new step in the campaign mounted by U.S. militarists for the deployment of this new and horrible weapon of mass destruction.

The plans of the American military cause deep indignation from the world public. The international forum against the neutron bomb, held recently in Amsterdam, stressed that this is a horrible weapon designed specifically for the destruction of people. The participants in the forum underlined the necessity to do everything possible to protect the life and future of mankind from the danger caused by a new escalation in the nuclear arms race which could inevitably result from the adoption of the neutron bomb.

Our countries, said the appeal adopted by the forum, must not accept the deployment of this weapon on their territories. It is well-known that the Dutch parliament has already voted against the production and deployment of the neutron bomb.

Yet, as becomes clear from Haig's address at the press conference, NATO leaders ignore the wish of the people who are trying to prevent a slide of the world towards the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. All their plans are aimed at building up the arms race and intensifying international tension.

AMSTERDAM FORUM CONDEMNS PLANS FOR NEUTRON WEAPON

LD230835Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent Yu. Yasnev: "Stop the Neutron Bomb!"]

[Text] Amsterdam, 19 March--Speaking at the final plenary session of the International Forum Against the Neutron Bomb, the head of the Soviet public delegation, V. Ye. Lobanok, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, exposed the false thesis about the so-called "Soviet military threat" which the Pentagon uses as a cover for the arms race and for production plans for the neutron bomb. The speaker stressed the importance of the proposal made by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the countries of the West on mutual renunciation of neutron weapon production.

The closing speech was then made by (Niko Skhauten), leader of the Dutch "Stop the Neutron Bomb!" action group. He noted that the forum had made an impressive contribution to the growing movement against nuclear arms.

On behalf of the presidium (Niko Skhauten) read out the text of the International Forum's appeal to the peoples and governments of all countries.

"This forum," Doctor of Philosophy Howard Parsons, a scholar from the United States, told our correspondent, "has made a tremendous impression on me. V.I. Lenin defined imperialism as the highest stage of capitalism. The neutron bomb is the latest stage of imperialism's barbarism and madness. Those who aspire to the role of defenders of 'human rights' throughout the world are in fact following a course which threatens to destroy the chief human right--the right to live. The forum said 'no!' to the neutron bomb and to death and 'yes!' to life and progress. The members of our delegation will return to the United States wanting to struggle even more vigorously for the cause of peace throughout the world and for a ban on the neutron bomb."

Today there was a sort of extension of the forum in the streets of Amsterdam. Thousands of Netherlanders had come from all over the country to participate in a mass demonstration along with the inhabitants of the capital.

The people gathered in the city center of Frederiksplein, former columns, raised their placards and banners protesting against the neutron weapon and the American military and set off along the streets of Amsterdam toward a sports stadium where a mass rally took place.

SOVIET SECRET SERVICE ROLL IN MORO KIDNAPING DENIED

LD222023Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Alarming reports are coming in from Italy. Nothing is known as yet on the fate of former Prime Minister Moro, kidnaped in Rome a few days ago. The terrorist act against this outstanding statesman and politician is causing deep indignation among the country's democratic forces.

Moro's ordeal has been causing concern in the Soviet Union, too. He is known in this country as an active supporter of the development of friendly relations between the USSR and Italy. Moro's signature is on the CSCE final act.

What has happened in Rome has been interpreted as a political crime by the Soviet public. Meanwhile, an evidently provocative and anti-Soviet fabrication has been launched in Italy, asserting that the Soviet secret services are implicated in Moro's kidnaping. An absurdity? Yes, a complete one. And yet the bourgeois press has been disseminating it insistently. This is an old method of the forces of extreme reaction, which uses slander in order to divert attention from its own obscure doings.

[Moscow TASS in English at 2200 GMT on 22 March carries an identical version of above item but notes item is "text" of a paragraph in PRAVDA. TASS item is headlined "provocative invention."]

FRG POLITICIAN USED ANTI-SOVIETISM TO COURT PEKING

LD130732Y Moscow TASS in English 0716 GMT 23 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--The newspaper PRAVDA has published a rejoinder today headlined "From a Crib". It says: "The readers of the Springer newspaper DIE WELT who are experienced in all sorts of noisy sensations can hardly be astonished. Who knows maybe it was for this particular reason that they were offered the other day the statement in interview by CDU Bundestag Deputy M. Abelein... In the Chinese language. Please don't think that Herr Abelein has learned hieroglyphics, but he has learned by heart Peking's propaganda vocabulary. Here is an example. Speaking at length on the international situation, Abelein on the one hand mentioned "the Soviet Union with its hegemony", and on the other hand--the USA which also takes certain hegemonic positions in the field of the West's foreign policy. It looked just like he was using a Peking crib."

There is nothing new in West German ultras, among whom is also Abelein, permanently frightening the man-in-the-street with some "threat from the East." But it is a different thing when a CDU representative is shooting at Washington. It is common knowledge that if the USA is at times accused of some things in Peking, it is done only as a distracting manoeuvre, to camouflage calls for knocking together an anti-Soviet front. And consequently, Abelein in this case too only echoes the methods of Peking propaganda.

"As far as the interview in the newspaper DIE WELT is concerned, it is some sort of overture. The thing is that Abelein is going to visit China soon among a delegation of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group. And he needed his bravado with the Maoist terminology, in all evidence, as some sort of show of identity of views with the Peking leaders, whose anti-Sovietism has long become notorious."

POLAND'S WOJTASZEK HOLDS VIENNA TALKS WITH PAHR

LD221348Y Moscow TASS in English 1304 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, March 22, TASS--Talks began here between the foreign minister of the Polish People's Republic, Emil Wojtaszek, who is here on an official visit, and the foreign minister of Austria, Willibald Pahr. The ministers noted the favourable development of relations between the two countries and good prospects for them. There are broad opportunities for expanding economic cooperation, including cooperation on third country markets.

When discussing international problems, the Middle East situation was touched upon, as well as the results of the Belgrade meeting of representatives of participating states in the European security and cooperation conference. The striving of both sides to deepen the detente process was stressed.

Emil Wojtaszek was received by the first chairman of the National Council, Anton Benya. During the talks Anton Bneya stressed that, as a neutral state, Austria wishes to maintain good contacts with all the world's countries.

Emil Wojtaszek expressed the hope that good Polish-Austrian relations will continue to successfully develop to the benefit of the two peoples. He spoke in favour of deepening the detente process and augmenting political detente by military relaxation measures.

BRIEFS

SOVIET-FINNISH SEMINAR--Helsinki--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Klochko reports: A joint seminar of Soviet and Finnish trade unions on the theme of the importance of the 1948 treaty and economic cooperation between the USSR and Finland took place today in the House of Soviet Culture and Science. Taking part in its work were a Soviet trade union delegation, representatives of the central trade union associations and industrial trade unions of Finland and of the Finland-USSR society. The seminar took place within the framework of the week of Soviet and Finnish trade unions devoted to the 30th anniversary of the treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid between the USSR and Finland. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1435 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD]

FURTHER MATERIAL ON ISRAELI MOVE INTO LEBANON

U.S. Duplicity

LD221704Y Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 22, TASS--The situation in the southern areas of Lebanon that were subjected to a bandit attack by the Israeli Army a week ago, remains extremely tense. Armed to the teeth by the United States, the aggressors brought to Lebanon blood and tears, sorrow and sufferings to hundreds of thousands of people. The stream of refugees from the south of the country is not diminishing to this day. Thousands of people, who have lost their homes and relatives, are arriving every day in Beirut and other towns. Their number has already exceeded 200,000.

A special correspondent of the Paris newspaper LE FIGARO reports from the Israeli-occupied areas that the Israeli intervention has turned the entire south of Lebanon "into a desert and ruins". About 1,300 Lebanese and Palestinians have perished, and nearly 4,000 have been injured. The super-heavily armed Israeli Army has striven, with hatred and ruthlessness, to destroy as much as possible, this being evidenced by the bombings of towns and Palestinian refugee camps, writes the newspaper L'HUMANITE. The London DAILY TELEGRAPH writes that most Palestinians killed or captured by the interventionists were old people, women and children.

Tel Aviv's statement that the intrusion forces were given a cease-fire order last night is regarded in Lebanon as a new manoeuvre by the aggressor. Political observers remind that the Israeli command has more than once announced an end to military operations in Lebanon, but everytime sent fresh forces into battle, and the aggression acquired ever greater scope. Israel continues to ignore the United Nations Security Council resolution demanding the immediate withdrawal of the aggressor's troops from captured Lebanese territory. Serious alarm is caused in the Lebanese capital by Tel Aviv's intention to drag out indefinitely the withdrawal of its troops and to press for changes in the Lebanese-Israeli border, in particular, in the area of Mount Hermon.

Sounding very strangely against this sinister background was a statement by a White House spokesman at a press conference that at the talks between President James Carter of the United States and Prime Minister Begin of Israel, that began in Washington yesterday, the question of Israel's armed intrusion into southern Lebanon was not raised at all.

This statement only confirms the double-dealing of the United States, which speaks about being worried by the situation in Lebanon but does nothing to cut short the aggression and ensure the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanese territory. On the contrary, as noted by the New York TIMES, the White House is very friendly disposed to the visitor from Tel Aviv. When greeting Begin, the American President noted with satisfaction that militarily Israel is now stronger than ever before. Judging by press reports the American administration is concerned not by the destinies of the hundreds of thousands of victims of Israel's armed intervention in Lebanon but by breathing new life in the deadlocked Egyptian-Israeli separate talks. The Paris newspaper MATIN writes that White House wants to clear the road for a resumption of these talks. FIGARO notes that the United States is trying to "save As-Sadat" whose capitulatory course has resulted in a toughening of the Israeli position and has encouraged Tel Aviv to attack Lebanon.

Observers point out that military aspects of American-Israeli relations are dominant at the talks in Washington. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes that the Israeli Government has asked the United States to increase American military aid by 50 per cent during the next ten years. During the last five years Israel received from the United States arms and military equipment to the sum of more than 7 billion dollars.

On the day the talks with Begin began, a number of "key" congressmen were invited to White House to discuss plans of selling Israel 90 most up-to-date F-15 and F-16 jet planes of the type that are now sowing death in the south of Lebanon.

Feeling Washington's support, the Israeli premier has found it possible at the meeting with American congressmen to repeat his government's extremely tough position in questions of the Middle East settlement. Once again he stated Israel's intention to leave its troops in the occupied West Bank of the Jordan and to continue expanding the network of paramilitary settlements on captured Arab lands.

F. al-Qaddumi, head of the political department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, stressed that the Israeli intervention in Lebanon shows that the United States supports the Begin government's aggressive policy and renounces all obligations stemming from the joint Soviet-American statement on the Middle East. All this, he said, aggravates tension in the Middle East, increases the danger of a new war, torpedoes international efforts directed at the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

U.S. Hypocrisy

LD221253V Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Yu. Tysovskiy article: "With Washington's Blessing"]

[Text] The Israeli military is again conducting large-scale aggression. An ironclad armada of U.S.-produced tanks and motorized units crossed the Israeli border at night and invaded a sovereign neighboring Arab country. Some 25,000-30,000 Israeli soldiers took part in the onslaught, and in fact occupied the south of Lebanon. A naval assault force was landed near Tyre and Sidon, and cities and villages were subjected to barbaric attacks by U.S.-produced Phantoms, which even bombed the outskirts of Beirut. Among the peaceful population there are hundreds of dead and injured. To judge by the statements by Israeli Defense Minister Weizman, his cutthroats intend to remain in Lebanon for a long time on this occasion. "As long as is necessary," he stated with shameless peremptoriness.

Official Washington is trying to talk its way out with hypocritical admonitions and expressions of regret. People there are relying on the allegations that no one from Tel Aviv informed them of this overtly provocative action, although they admit that it was not "unexpected."

Tel Aviv's intentions were an open secret. It was clear from the statements of Begin and company and the decisions of the Israeli Knesset that this time it was a case of an attempt at physical liquidation of the Palestine resistance movement as one of the detachments of the inter-Arab national liberation movement. And this is something the makers of U.S. foreign policy are in no way inclined to hinder, since the Palestinians have become a stumbling-block on the path of the separate deals being made between Israel and Egypt under the aegis of the United States. Cairo, which in the past few weeks has stoked an unprecedented anti-Palestinian campaign, has in fact, through President as-Sadat, blessed the Israeli action and is now simulating "regret" about what has happened, stressing here by every means that it will not abandon "its efforts to advance to peace," that is, toward a separate deal.

Lebanese reaction is silently applauding the Israeli aggression. Did not its military formations in the south give covering fire to the Israeli tanks? The rightwing Christian leaders could hardly wait for an opportunity to put an end to the combat alliance between the Palestine resistance movement and the Lebanese national patriotic forces in order to give themselves a free hand and implement their plans to divide the country. What they have not succeeded in achieving during the bloody 18-month war in Lebanon they intend to obtain from the hands of the Israeli warriors. Vain hopes.

The present events in this region, the TASS statement says, confirm yet again the very well-founded nature of the Soviet Union's frequent warnings that the unsettled nature of the Near East conflict, Israel's occupation of Arab lands and the flouting of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine create a situation leading to military clashes and fraught with the danger of serious consequences.

The practice of international piracy officially preached by Begin, Weizman and others with them is provoking indignation among all people of good will and shows graphically the repulsive countenance of those who have won the indulgence of people who love to discourse about human rights and with whom those eager for separate deals have become involved. Israel is again sowing the wind. The whirlwind is not far off....

Israeli Destruction

LD221845Y Moscow TASS in English 1648 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

["Aggressors Without a Mask"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 22, TASS--TASS commentator Yuriy Trushin writes: When making its bandit attack against Lebanon, the Israeli Army tried to destroy as much as it could. When bombing and shelling it was not deterred by mass killing of civilians, the destruction of villages, towns and architectural monuments of the past. Even the Western bourgeois press, that tried at first somehow to whitewash Israel's aggression, is now compelled to admit that "the entire south of Lebanon has been turned into a desert and ruins".

The attack on Lebanon was prepared thoroughly and for a long time with the aim of expanding the zone of Israeli occupation of Arab lands and delivering a "crushing blow" at the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Lebanese national patriotic forces. To formalise the policy of genocide, the Israeli Knesset (parliament) adopted on the eve of the aggression a special resolution urging ruthless struggle against the Palestine Liberation Organization and the actual annihilation of its leaders. It was thus that the 30,000-strong army of Israeli aggressors, that surged into Lebanon, was formally and in advance absolved of responsibility for crimes committed in Lebanon.

The most advanced American F-15 fighter-bombers, that the United States does not supply even to its NATO allies, were used by Israel in the barbarous air raids on Lebanese towns and villages during which hundreds of civilians were killed and thousands wounded. The Israeli Air Force also used in Lebanon American pellet bombs that inflict particularly serious wounds. Having failed to achieve its principal aim--to destroy in a lightning strike the united forces of the Palestinians and the (?national patriotic) detachments of Lebanon, the Israeli military began to vent their rage on civilians. In An-Nabatiyah, for instance, there is not a single building that has not been damaged by shelling or bombing. Trucks carrying refugees were hunted down and destroyed by rockets by Israeli aircraft on the roads leading from Tyre and Sidon to Beirut. Refugees from the south continue to stream into the Lebanese capital. The number of refugees already exceeds 200,000. Despite measures taken by the Lebanese Government, most of these refugees do not yet have even temporary shelter and are in dire need of food and medical aid.

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MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

The criminal attack on Lebanon, that was prepared by the Begin government with Washington's blessing and support, is strongly condemned by all peaceloving peoples. The Israeli aggression against Lebanon demonstrated once again the acuteness of the Middle East crisis that can be settled not by separate deals but only by ensuring the rights and security of all peoples and states of the Middle East, including the rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

Refugees Interviewed

LD222114Y Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 22, TASS--TASS correspondent Anatoliy Borisov reports: Long rows of standard tents, the sight of dozens of people crowding in one tent as well as thousands who have not got even this kind of shelter--this is the picture of a refugee camp in the suburbs of Beirut. There are dozens of such camps in the country, yet they cannot accommodate all who lost their homes and were evicted by Israeli troops from the southern Lebanese areas. Among the refugees are not only Palestinians but also Lebanese women, children and old people.

A nightmare which is hard to put in words. That is how an inhabitant of the Palestinian camp Ar-Rashidiyah, Salah Futuri, defined the numerous Israeli air strikes against the camp which led to heavy casualties among its civilian inhabitants. Bombs and missiles exploded everywhere. Homes came crashing down, and a fire was raging. All hell broke loose, and cries of people and the moaning of the wounded were now heard. My six-year-old son was gravely shell-shocked. In the neighbouring family the husband and wife were killed; their three children were left orphans, and we adopted them.

How can Israel justify its aggression? Our devastated villages and cities, tens of thousands of refugees who have lost their homes and the means of subsistence--all that is on the invaders' conscience. This was pointed out by one of the inhabitants of Tyre who is moving deep inside the country together with his family. It's hard to believe that just a week ago we were working quietly, raising our children, sending them to school and never giving a thought as to where we were going to spend the night. All that has collapsed. We have lost everything we used to live by, and it's hard to predict what is in store for us tomorrow.

However, we are not going to bow to Israeli aggression, said 'Abd al-Kerim, an inhabitant of Burj Ash-Shimali camp, who joined in the conversation. We are not going to bow to the newest weapons the invaders are getting from the United States. The Zionists were taught a good lesson. Their hopes for an easy stroll along southern Lebanon were in vain. They have never crushed or intimidated us, he exclaimed.

Confidence in Struggle

LD221950Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary: "An Example of Courage and Steadfastness"]

[Text] Dear Palestinian friends, once again your just cause is going through a very difficult and responsible stage. Strugglers of the Palestinian resistance movement are now waging fierce battles against and dealing heavy blows to the superior forces of the Israeli aggressors.

Despite fierce attacks on land, sea and air, the aggressors have not been able to occupy Tyre. The brave defenders of the rights of the tortured Palestinian people and their fighting allies, the Lebanese nationalist forces, proved the steadfastness that is shattering the attacks of the forces of the aggressors, who are armed with the most modern U.S. military hardware.

In this context, I believe it is possible to confirm that no matter how much the Israeli aggressors and their imperialist protectors try to distort the objectives and content of the struggle of the Palestinian resistance movement, one fact remains firm and clear to all unbiased people: The Palestinian resistance movement is defending the just cause of its people, whom the Zionists and imperialism have deprived not only of their legitimate national rights but also of the right to live.

The present events in Lebanon once again indicate that the Palestinian resistance movement continues to be a vanguard of the struggle of the Arab national liberation movement, a vanguard marching with determination and resolution along the road of the struggle against the black forces of oppression and exploitation of imperialism and its agent, Zionism.

The experience of the Arab peoples and other peoples of the world categorically shows that there is no force in the world that can destroy the will of patriots in their sacred struggle for their just cause and for freedom, independence and progress. This struggle enjoys the complete support of all peoples. All honest people on earth and all vanguard progressive forces, even in the camp of the aggressors themselves, are on the side of the Palestinian people. With the brave Palestinian people are the Soviet Union and all the socialist bloc. All this gives rise to confidence that the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people will in the end be recovered and that the state of the Palestinian Arab people, as was stated recently by Aleksey Kosygin, Soviet premier, will occupy its proper place among other states of the Middle East.

'ARAFAT ON PLO, EGYPTIAN POLICY, LARNACA INCIDENT

LD221311Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 12, 17 Mar 78 pp 8-9 LD

[Text] "The Soviet Union has invariably sided and will continue to side with the just cause of the Palestinian Arab people," L. I. Brezhnev declared during his 9 March conversation in the Kremlin with Yāsir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee. During his visit to Moscow Y. 'Arafat gave an interview to NOVOYE VREMYA correspondent Yuriy Tyunkov.

[Question] How do you assess the latest events in the Near East?

[Answer] First of all I want to note that literally from the moment Egyptian President A. as-Sadat announced his decision to go to Israel, to occupied Jerusalem, we declared that we oppose such actions. In our opinion, the Egyptian president's aim was by no means to achieve peace. This was an operation prepared by the United States.

The behind-the-scenes aspect of this operation which was accompanied by an unprecedented ballyhoo is now beginning to become clear. The imperialist mass media spared no effort to depict the Egyptian-Israeli talks as some kind of "peace initiative."

However, it transpired pretty swiftly that the Israeli Government has no intention of eliminating its settlements even in Sinai and intends to retain airfields there and the strategically important point of Sharm ash-Shaykh. [paragraph continues]

Nor is it concealing the fact that it wants to retain its settlements on the West Bank of the Jordan and on the Golan Heights. What is more, the number of settlements increases constantly. This testifies eloquently enough to the kind of "peace" they want to impose upon us.

Nor can one help mentioning that many high-ranking U.S. figures are talking pretty frankly and even cynically about Israel's role in safeguarding American imperialist interests in the Near East and in particular in insuring the so-called "security" of the Near East oil sources and supply routes. And it is clear why such an enormous flood of American weapons--and weapons of the most modern types--is being rushed there. It is also reported that Israel has been enabled, not without the assistance of the United States and certain other Western countries, to create 10-12 nuclear bombs. It is necessary to take into account the serious threat with which the mighty military potential created in Israel is fraught.

[Question] When the subject of peace talks is raised, Israel categorically opposed PLO participation in them adducing all kinds of pretexts. What could you say about this?

[Answer] No matter how Israel tries, it cannot prohibit the PLO from participating in the talks. Can the problem of our people be solved without the participation of their legitimate representatives?

The PLO's rights have been recognized by Arab heads of state and government at conferences in Rabat, Algiers, Cairo, Alexandria and Khartoum. The PLO is a full member of the Arab League.

It is recognized as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people by the United Nations. And, although we have observer status there, we are the only representatives of the Palestinian people in that international organization. In 1976 we participated in the work of the UN Security Council. Moreover, PLO representatives participate in the work of the movement of nonaligned countries and the OAU and in the conferences of Islamic states and are recognized by them.

While talking about this, I want to stress that it is not merely a matter of external recognition. Our people and our struggle gave us the legitimate right to represent Palestinian Arabs. It will be recalled that it was imprecisely the same way that Algerian patriots represented their people during the independence struggle. South Vietnam's patriots and also freedom fighters in other countries have been legitimate spokesmen of their people's will.

It is interesting to note that the PLO is recognized by twice as many countries as Israel. Public circles recognize us in both the United States and Israel.

Opposition to PLO participation in the peace talks is attempting to infringe upon the Palestinian people's rights.

[Question] How do you assess the Egyptian Government's recent decision restricting Palestinians' rights?

[Answer] It is part of the imperialists' plans in the Near East to strike a blow at the fraternal relations between the Egyptian and Palestinian peoples. And what is now happening in Egypt cannot fail to cause profound regret. It is with a feeling of bitterness and pain that we see the hysterical anti-Palestinian campaign that has developed there since the tragic events in Cyprus.

I must plainly say that the actions in Nicosia and Larnaca were aimed primarily against the Palestinian resistance movement, against the PLO and also against the Afro-Asian solidarity movement.

I would note that the terrorists do not represent the Palestinian movement and that one of them is not a Palestinian at all. But the aim of those who sent them was to present the Palestinians as terrorists in the eyes of the world public opinion. The position of the PLO, which has condemned the murder of As-Siba'i, is well known. We have nothing to do with these actions, and we resolutely condemn them.

I want to dwell on certain details of the events which took place in Cyprus. A lieutenant with the Egyptian commandos openly declared to the president of Cyprus in the presence of our officer that the Egyptian authorities sent their aircraft and soldiers in order to destroy the aircraft seized by the terrorists, together with the hostages. But it was all over before the arrival of the Egyptian group, and the terrorists had agreed to surrender to the Cypriot authorities and to release the hostages. It was precisely then that the Egyptian military attache instructed the Egyptian soldiers to attack. As a result a tragedy took place and 15 Egyptian servicemen were killed. I am pained by what happened.

I might add that the Cyprus Government also appealed to us, and we sent 16 people to the island. They were awaiting orders from the Cyprus Government to help it solve this problem. One of our comrades--the PLO representative in the AAPSO--was wounded in Larnaca as he stood alongside two officers of the Egyptian security service who had come to Cyprus the day before the commandos.

In connection with these events it must be said that they are part of the broad and hostile campaign against the Palestinian people, the PLO and all the Arab peoples. This campaign envisages the murder of many Palestinian resistance movement leaders. I say this on the basis not of my own deductions but of specific facts and documents. A big operation is being prepared with the participation of the Americans, the Israelis and also, unfortunately, certain Arabs.

It is no accident that the two terrorists in Nicosia were seeking Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council. They admitted that they were ordered to kill him. They were also supposed to kill another comrade of ours--Abdallah Haurani. Before the start of the session the terrorists found out from the delegates where Al-Fahum and Haurani were. Thus Yusuf as-Siba'i was not the terrorists' only target. I would also recall the murder of Sayid Hammani here. I would also recall the murder of Sayid Mammani--our representative in London. But I want to stress that our movement cannot be determined by such methods.

[Question] Could you briefly describe the present situation within the Palestinian movement?

[Answer] The Palestinian resistance movement is now going through a highly crucial period. It must be borne in mind that the Palestinians' struggle is exerting a considerable influence on all Arab states. That is why such a fierce campaign has been mounted against us. Attempts are being made to explode our movement from within. We also have to wage an armed struggle not only in occupied lands but also in southern Lebanon, where the Israelis, utilizing local forces hostile to us as their cover, are waging a real war against the Palestinian resistance movement forces.

In order to withstand all this successfully, we, together with our Syrian brothers and a number of other Arab countries, created the steadfastness and rejection front at the conferences in Tripoli and Algiers. This front, or alliance, is not merely confined to its five direct members but has many supporters in all Arab countries, including Egypt.

As far as the situation within the Palestinian movement, I can state with satisfaction that we have succeeded in surmounting political disagreements using the most democratic means. It is by no means simple to implement democracy in a period of liberation struggle, but we have succeeded in doing so.

People who have attended Palestine National Council sessions cannot fail to have noted that the most diverse viewpoints are expressed there and extremely acute arguments sometimes emerge. We believe that everyone is entitled to express an opinion. Then we elaborate a common viewpoint through democratic dialog. That is how the movement's political program is elaborated at Palestine National Council sessions. A 15-point program was adopted at the 13th session held last year, which was devoted to the memory of Kamal Junblatt.

An important 6-point document was signed last December during the Tripoli conference. It is still subject to approval by the Palestine National Council before becoming our new program. But the implementation of its provisions has effectively begun.

It is very important that the Supreme Military Council, which I have the honor of heading as commander in chief of Palestinian resistance movement forces, has been created. The unification process is continuing at the present time, and we have moved from simple military coordination to amalgamation of armed formations in practice.

[Question] In your opinion, what is the Soviet Union's role in solving Near East problems?

[Answer] The USSR is certainly one of the main sides interested in achieving a Near East settlement. Your country is a great power that cannot fail to pay attention to events in this strategically important area. Moreover, the USSR as is well known, is one of the cochairmen of the Geneva peace conference. Although UN Security Council Resolution No 338 of 22 October 1973 was not approved by the PLO, it is still an important document that aims at solving the problem and reflects a balanced international approach. The Soviet Union is one of the guarantors of the resolution and one of the main parties in this international compromise.

We believe that the Soviet Union in general plays an important role in implementation of the Arab peoples' aspirations. And it is particularly important for us that the USSR, which is a genuine and loyal friend of the Arabs, invariably supports the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people. In our opinion the USSR can and must play a most active role in solving the Near East problem. We pin our hopes on this for implementation of our legitimate rights.

The conference of the steadfastness and rejection front in Algiers adopted a special decision on strengthening relations with your country and the other socialist states. Presidents Boumediene and al-Asad; Major Jallud; and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, have already held talks in Moscow. Our present visit is a link in this series of talks.

I want to reiterate that the Palestinian people rate highly the firm and principled position which the Soviet people, the CPSU and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev personally adopt vis-a-vis our struggle. We are united in the opinion that peace in the Near East cannot be based on oppression and enslavement but must be built with consideration for the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate national rights.

GREEK CYPRIOT EXTREMISTS MAKE DEMANDS, THREATEN TERROR

LD222002Y Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 22 Mar '78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, March 22, TASS--A statement circulated here by the so called "Greek Liberation Army" caused deep anxiety and alarm among broad sectors of the public in Cyprus. This underground terrorist organization has demanded an end to the purge of the state apparatus from persons involved in anti-government activities and the release of participants in the 1974 coup on Cyprus, as well as the elimination of the Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization on the island with the deportation of all its members from the country. In case the government rejects their ultimatum before May 15, the extremists threaten to unleash mass terror throughout the country.

The Government of Cyprus came out resolutely against this new reactionary sally and declared that the Cypriot people will not submit to blackmail. Political parties and public organizations of Cyprus pledged full support to the government and called on the Cypriot people to rebuff the machinations of the rightists.

A statement by the Central Committee of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus points out that the country is facing a new conspiracy, the final goal of which is to eliminate the state of Cyprus. The threat of the conspiracy, immediately related to imperialist plans in the Middle East and the Eastern Mediterranean, can be traced to the neonazis of Western Germany and international Zionism. The statement stresses that the selisame forces that had brought the country to its present tragic state, are being used as the executioners of the new criminal plans.

The paper TA NEA reports that the Cyprus underground is being financed from abroad by the West German CSU Party led by its chairman F. Strauss. The local press believes that the new reactionary sallies are aimed at destabilizing the situation in Cyprus.

CYPRIOT COMMUNISTS ISSUE THESES FOR MAY PARTY CONGRESS

LD221328Y Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, March 22, TASS--The theses of the Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) for the party's 14th congress to be held on May 25-28, have been published here.

The theses indicate that the period since the 13th AKEL Congress was characterized by the imperialist conspiracy against Cyprus, which led in 1974 to a fascist coup and the landing of Turkish troops on the island. The party comes out resolutely for settling the Cyprus question by peaceful means on the basis of U.S. resolutions, with account of the interests of the Greek and Turkish communities. Cyprus must be an independent, sovereign, territorially integral state. The international aspects of the Cyprus question must be examined at an international conference convened in the U.N. framework.

The theses point out that the AKEL regards the election of Spiros Kiprianou as president of Cyprus, as a victory for the patriotic and democratic forces and a failure of the policy of imperialist circles. At the same time the AKEL regrets to note that persons involved in the coup are still employed in the state apparatus, the national guard and the police. As a result of tolerance on the part of the authorities, underground forces have intensified subversive activities. The state, the theses stress, has a duty to exercise firmness and resolve in the struggle against reactionary machinations. The AKEL believes it necessary also to undertake practical measures along government lines for the gradual restoration of cooperation between the Greek and Turkish communities on the island.

The theses highly assess the 1976 Berlin conference of communist and workers' parties of Europe. An important political event, it is pointed out, was the all-European Security and Cooperation Conference, which proved the bankruptcy of cold-war politics. The 25th Congress of the CPSU, which turned into an event of worldwide historical significance, made a great contribution to the struggle for strengthening peace and detente. The historical task assumed by peace-loving forces around the world, the communists first of all, is to rid mankind of the danger of a thermonuclear war and the menace of the neutron bomb, to rid mankind of wars forever through general and complete disarmament.

The AKEL takes into account, the theses say, that imperialist quarters are trying in every way to split the international communist and working-class movement. In these efforts the main target of their subversive activities is the great land of socialism--the Soviet Union. Spearheaded against the same target is the policy of the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. This policy inflicts considerable harm on the cause of socialism and peace, on the struggle of the peoples for independence, democracy and social progress, it benefits imperialist forces alone and serves their purposes.

The AKEL, say the theses in conclusion, is a party of a new type, guided by the invincible teaching of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, a party which correctly applies this scientific theory in practice. As a major political force on Cyprus, it plays a vanguard role in the Cypriots' struggle for the preservation of the Cyprus state and for resolving the people's vital problems.

TURKISH NEWSPAPER CRITICIZES U.S. INTERNAL INTERFERENCE

LD151424Y Moscow TASS in English 1333 GMT 15 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Ankara, March 15 TASS--The newspaper GUNAYDIN expresses serious concern over the U.S. interference into Turkey's internal affairs. For many years, the newspaper writes, the United States has been keeping its fingers on the pulse of the events taking place in the country. CIA and FBI agents have long since infiltrated into Turkish state security bodies and divulge to Washington all secrets, including military. CIA agents who work at the American Embassy and other representations under the guise of diplomats, are elaborating plans of exerting an impact on the development of the situation inside Turkey. There were cases, the newspaper points out, when the United States sent in intelligence men even as ambassadors.

The newspaper stresses that American interference into Turkey's affairs is largely detrimental to the national interests of the country and jeopardizes its sovereignty.

BRIEFS

CONSULAR CONVENTION WITH GREECE--Athens, March 18, TASS--A consular convention between the Soviet Union and Greece was initialled here. Speaking at the ceremony of initialling the consular convention, M. Ikonomidis, the director of the legal department of the Foreign Ministry of Greece, said that it will promote the development of friendly relations and cooperation existing between the two countries. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 18 Mar 78 LD]

EXTENDED STAY IN SOMALIA BY CARTER EMISSARY REPORTED

LD221416Y Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 22, TASS--Richard Moose, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, a special emissary from the U.S. President, has extended his stay in Somalia indefinitely, it was announced by the U.S. Embassy in Mogadiscio on Tuesday.

According to an official report of the Somali news agency, Richard Moose is holding "friendly chats" with representatives of the local leadership on bilateral relations between the United States and Somalia. American commentators are unanimous in naming the main item of the protracted "friendly chats"--American arms deliveries to Somalia.

Richard Moose's arrival in Mogadiscio, local diplomatic circles believe, signifies a turn in Washington's tactics. It has been [word indistinct] that previously the United States preferred to act behind scenes and to give military aid to Somalia through third countries, such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, but now it is negotiating direct arms deliveries.

The conclusion is thus being drawn that the United States intends to strengthen its positions in that area of Africa, to tie Somalia to itself by promises to replace the armaments lost by Somalia during the war against Ethiopia, and also to supply new arms.

The American diplomacy manoeuvres, commentators believe, pursue obvious aims: On the one hand, to gain a firm foot in Somalia and, on the other, to undermine relations of countries of this region with the USSR and to bar the Soviet Union from (?access) to the Red Sea. Such steps may only lead to new complications and destabilization of the situation in the north eastern part of Africa, which is already complicated.

MATERIAL ON DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING EVENTS IN RHODESIA

Executive Council Meeting

LD212245Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1755 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD

["A Farce, A Political Spectacle in Salisbury"--TASS headline]

[Text] Lusaka, 21 March, TASS--The head of the unlawful Rhodesian regime, Smith, and three African puppet leaders in collusion with him have played out a ceremony of their assumption of posts of members of the "Executive Council" in Salisbury today. According to the regime this collective organ should play the role of a "Provisional Government" of Rhodesia. All four of them held a session today to determine the composition of this "government."

This latest act of a political spectacle in Salisbury was carried out in accordance with the scenario--an agreement on an "internal settlement" worked out at the beginning of March. It provides for the creation by the end of this year of a permanent mixed "government" and "parliament." The acknowledged representative of the country's African population--the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front--has categorically refused to take part in this new Smith intrigue, which is called upon to retain the very same racist-colonialist order in Rhodesia behind the Africanized state facade.

The African and the world public has rejected the Salisbury deal made behind the backs of the Zimbabwe people and without their authorization. The UN Security Council has proclaimed as unlawful and unacceptable the attempts of the racist regime to retain its domination, as well as its maneuvers aimed against the true independence of Zimbabwe and called upon all states not to recognize the "internal settlement."

Britain, the United States and other Western powers, which are supporting the plans for the creation of a puppet regime in Rhodesia which would defend their economic and political interests, have abstained during the voting on this resolution in the UN Security Council. A representative of the British Foreign Office said in London today that the British Government "is ready to have de facto dealings with the 'executive council' which was set up in Salisbury."

The U.S. permanent representative at the UN, A. Young, has hurriedly left on his latest tour of Africa in order to obtain support for the neocolonialist plan of the West regarding Rhodesia. He arrived in Tanzania today for talks with President Nyerere.

Nkomo Remarks

LD222312Y Moscow TASS in English 2133 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, March 22, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Novikov reports: It has been announced in Salisbury that the chief Rhodesian racist, Ian Smith, and three "moderate" African leaders have been sworn in as members of the so-called "Executive Council" that is to head the "Provisional Government" of Rhodesia.

The plans for setting up such a government, widely advertised by the Smith clique as a transitional stage to African majority rule, actually do not change anything, the TASS correspondent was told by one of the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, Joshua Nkomo. It is simply that Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau joined the long-discredited illegal Smith regime. This is nothing new. We spoke about it when an agreement on a so-called "internal settlement" was signed in Salisbury. Nothing has changed from the fact that now, side by side with Smith, there are three Africans. This is why, Joshua Nkomo stressed, the armed struggle against the racist regime will be carried on. We are fighting not against the white population, he noted, but against the ignominious racist system, irrespective of whether it is represented by people with white, black or other skin colour.

Touching on the proposal by the Patriotic Front to convene a new conference in Malta, Joshua Nkomo said that it is proposed to discuss there military problems and related questions having a bearing on the transitional period from the state of war to independence. Participants of the Malta conference must be only the Patriotic Front and Britain. Yet all interested political parties could take part in discussing the constitution of an independent country.

Israeli-Made Planes

LD212102Y Moscow TASS in English 2020 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, March 21 TASS--The disgraceful collusion in Salisbury between the ringleader of the Rhodesian racialists Ian Smith and three African collaborationists will not make the patriots give up their armed liberation struggle. This was stated by one of the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, Joshua Nkomo, at a press conference in Lusaka.

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He condemned the continued reprisals of the racists against the Zimbabwe peaceful populations and their armed provocations against neighbouring African countries. Joshua Nkomo said that in addition to armaments from Western countries, the punitives of late started using widely in their operations Israeli-made planes.

ARMED PROVOCATIONS AGAINST ANGOLA CONTINUE

LD212237Y Moscow TASS in English 2145 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, March 21, TASS--The imperialists and their stooges do not for a single day cease preparation for a new aggression against the People's Republic of Angola, said Henrique Carreira, member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Workers' Party and minister of defense of the People's Republic of Angola. He was speaking to graduates of an officers' school in Uambo.

The minister said that 30,000 South African troops, more than 400 guns and mortars have been concentrated at the southern border of Angola in Namibian territory occupied by South African racists. New tank and air units were moved in there and war ships appeared off the coast.

The South African racists train, arm and supply the UNITA bands which act under their directions against the PRA and the patriots of the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) in Namibia.

In the immediate proximity of our northern border 20,000 Zaire troops are concentrated, said Henrique Carreira. They have tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery and other military hardware. The military camps and bases of the puppet bands of the FNLA and FLEC [Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave] still exist in Zaire close to our northern and north-eastern borders.

Daily, said the minister, these forces stage armed provocations against the People's Angola, fire on border posts, intrude into Angola's air space and the territory, sowing destruction and death.

Calling on the republic's armed forces to be more vigilant and combat-ready in face of these aggressive preparations, the minister stressed the particular danger for the cause of peace of Pretoria's nuclear claims and the vast West German missile proving ground in Zaire territory.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO ANGOLA REPLACED

LD211245Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 78 p 6 LD

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Vadim Petrovich Loginov ambassador to the People's Republic of Angola.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Boris Sergeyevich Vorobyev from his duties as ambassador to the People's Republic of Angola in connection with his transfer to other work.

CPSU DELEGATION ARRIVES IN SRI LANKA FOR SLCP CONGRESS

LD231049Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Text] A CPSU delegation led by I.I. Bodyul, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moldavian CP Central Committee, and including A.S. Vishnyakov, chief editor of the journal POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE, and L.V. Khlebnikov, an official of the CPSU Central Committee apparatus, flew to Colombo 19 March to participate in the 10th Congress of the Sri Lanka Communist Party [SLCP] at the invitation of the party's Central Committee.

That day the CPSU delegation arrived in Colombo. It was met by Pieter Keuneman, secretary general of the SLCP Central Committee, and by other officials of the communist party and representatives of the Sri Lankan public.

SLCP Congress Opens

LD222018Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The 10th congress of the Sri Lanka Communist Party opened today in Colombo marking its 35th anniversary.

Keuneman, secretary general of the SLCP Central Committee, said in his address that the country is currently passing through a complicated period which demands firm unity of all left-wing and democratic forces. Keuneman emphasized the increased role of the socialist community countries, above all the Soviet Union, in the struggle for peace, national liberation and social progress.

On behalf of all Soviet Communists, Bodyul, leader of the Soviet delegation, member of the CPSU and first secretary of the Moldavian CP Central Committee, wished success for the work of the congress and for the activities of Sri Lanka in its struggle for socialism.

SOVIET-PAKISTANI TRADE PROTOCOL, DOCUMENTS SIGNED

LD231047Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Mar 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Text] A meeting took place 20 March between N.S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade, and M. Masud, head of a Pakistani trade delegation and secretary at the Ministry of Commerce. Questions of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries were discussed during the talks.

On the same day a protocol on reciprocal deliveries of commodities and other documents governing trade relations between the two countries in 1978 were signed at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade. It is envisaged that the volume of reciprocal deliveries of commodities will increase significantly from 1977.

The Soviet Union will export machinery and equipment to Pakistan, including tractors, fertilizers, television sets and other commodities. Pakistan will in turn supply the USSR with finished output of national industry--cotton fabrics and sewn goods.

'FORCED LANDING' Of U.S. PLANES IN SINGAPORE SCORED

LD211644Y Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 21 Mar 78 LD

["Manoeuvres Around Manoeuvres"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 21, TASS--TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes: A squadron of U.S. fighters based on the Kitty Hawk aircraft carrier, which is organically assigned to the U.S. Seventh Fleet, unexpectedly made a surprise landing in Singapore's Payar-Lebar airport last week. This action was presented by the American side as "forced landing" allegedly as the aircraft carrier could not receive the planes for technical reasons.

Squadrons of the U.S. Seventh Fleet took a most active part in these days in the major U.S.-South Korean exercises with the participation of more than 100 thousand men and officers. Big contingents of U.S. troops were sent to the site of the exercises both from the United States itself and U.S. military bases in the Pacific and Japan, which were assigned the role of a transportation terminal point in these exercises.

On the same days, calls were made among the Japanese military circles for building up Japan's military might up to equipping its armed forces with the nuclear weapon. These coincidences are far from being accidental. They are actions clearly coordinated by the Pentagon for strengthening the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul triangle, which is assigned the role of a strike force in the area of Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

The appearance in Singapore of an element of 12 U.S. warplanes shows that a by far larger area has proved to be involved into the military exercises than was officially reported by the U.S. command, which assured that the exercises would be held only in the south of the Korean Peninsula and the waters washing it. Moreover, the fighter planes returned to the aircraft carrier only twenty-four hours later, and the last aircraft left the Singapore airfield only three days after the "forced landing."

Thus, the show of U.S. military presence is assuming increasingly intolerable forms, and explanations of every kind, as for example "technical reasons", will not mislead anyone. Such actions violate stability and build up tensions in that region impeding the process of detente and consolidation of peace.

BRIEFS

CANBERRA CONFERENCE--Canberra, March 16, TASS--The conference of the countries-parties to the Antarctic treaty came to a close. The conference considered matters aimed at preserving the marine living resources of Antarctica. The treaty signed in 1959 makes the parties to the treaty particularly responsible for the protection and preservation of the living resources of Antarctica. In this connection the delegations of Australia, Britain, Argentina, New Zealand, Poland, the USSR, the USA, France, Japan and other countries, which took part in the conference, expressed their opinion about the necessity to work out before the end of 1978 basic provisions for preserving the marine living resources of Antarctica. The provisions must be based on the principles of the Antarctic treaty. A draft convention on the preservation of marine living resources of Antarctica has been prepared and is subject to further discussion. [Text] Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 16 Mar 78 LD]

CPSU SENDS MESSAGE TO 42D JSP CONVENTION

OW230209Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Report on CPSU Central Committee message to the 42d convention of the Japan Socialist Party--date not given]

[Text] The CPSU highly evaluates the activities of the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] in the arduous struggle of the Japanese workers to resist monopoly capitalist repression, defend democratic rights, oppose increasing militarist tendencies in Japan and further strengthening of the military alliance between Japan and U.S. imperialism.

Our two parties are drawn together by the common struggle for the security of the peoples, for a curb on the arms race and for eradication of fascism, racism and colonialism.

The CPSU strives to deepen mutual understanding and expand cooperation between our two parties in the struggle for the further development of friendly relations with the JSP and for peace, democracy and social progress. The message then expresses the hope that the 42d JSP convention will contribute to the solidarity of all democratic and peace-loving forces in Japan.

In conclusion the message says: We wish the JSP new success in its activities in defense of working people's interests, in promoting the peaceful development of Japan, in opposing the reactionaries' intrigues to complicate the relations between our two countries, and in strengthening friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Japan.

JAPAN ENCOUNTERS NEW PRESSURE FROM PRC TO CONCLUDE TREATY

LD230923Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent I. Latyshev: "Peking's Unceremonious Pressure"]

[Text] Tokyo, 19 March--The Peking leaders have resumed pressure on Japanese Government and political circles to persuade them to join an anti-Soviet alliance. This is indicated by an excerpt published in the Japanese press of a statement read by Liao Cheng-chih, chairman of the Chinese-Japanese Friendship Society, at a meeting with Komeito Party Secretary General Junya Yano, who has been visiting Peking. The "statement," which is regarded by the Japanese press as the Chinese leadership's official position, contains an insistent appeal to the Japanese Government to immediately conclude a Chinese-Japanese "treaty on peace and friendship" and to resume, for this purpose, diplomatic talks between the two countries.

The Chinese document expresses displeasure at the position of those Japanese politicians who oppose the inclusion in the treaty of articles drawing Japan into an alliance with Peking to combat the "hegemony" of a certain power, by which, as everybody knows, the Maoists mean the Soviet Union. The authors of the statement slanderously state that the "hegemonism" (of the Soviet Union--I. Latyshev) is currently posing a "threat not only to China but also to Japan" and are demanding that the Japanese Government consent to unconditionally incorporate in the treaty a clause on "joint opposition to hegemony." The Japanese papers publish similar remarks made by PRC State Council Deputy Premier Teng Hsiao-ping in talks with Yano. Teng Hsiao-ping continues the hackneyed, slanderous attacks on the Soviet Union.

Noting the deliberately anti-Soviet thrust of recent statements by the Chinese leadership concerning the negotiations on a Japanese-Chinese "treaty on peace and friendship," a number of Japanese politicians see them as a fresh attempt to impose on Japan its own interpretation of the treaty and, at the same time, its own diplomatic course.

Recently, this issue was discussed in the Japanese parliament. Discussing the Chinese leadership's unceremonious behavior, and urging the Japanese Government to be vigilant when holding talks on concluding a Japanese-Chinese treaty, Koichiro Ueda, a Japanese Communist Party representative, stated at a House of Councilors Budget Committee session that "Japan's involvement in a united anti-Soviet front with China would mean that in addition to depending on the United States, Japan would be following in China's wake as well."

The paper SANKEI published a statement by Toshio Kimura, an influential figure in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. He concludes that the Chinese statement further encumbers Japan's position and complicates the course of the Japanese-Chinese talks. AS MAINICHI reports today, some Japanese politicians from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party view Peking's irresponsible fantasies about an imaginary Soviet "threat to Japan" as "interference in the country's internal affairs." This indicates that, besides supporters of a hasty rapprochement with Peking on Maoist terms, there are people in Japanese political circles who support a more sober course.

JAPAN, U.S., USSR AGREE TO SIBERIAN GAS PROJECT

OW2204-11Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0333 GMT 21 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar (KYODO)--Japan, the Soviet Union and the United States have confirmed the technological and economic feasibility of their joint project to develop national gas resources in Yakutsk in eastern Siberia, a Japanese business leader said Tuesday.

Hiroshi Anzai, chairman of Tokyo Gas Co., told the press that the confirmation came at an expert-level meeting of the three nations held here Thursday through Saturday and also at a top-level meeting Monday. Anzai, who is also president of Siberian Gas Development Co. of Tokyo, represented Japan at the top-level meeting. He said that representatives of the three nations will hold another round of meetings in Tokyo for five days from May 23 to estimate the total cost of the project and set amounts of bank-to-bank loans to be provided by both Japan and the United States for the promotion of the project. Anzai said the supply to Japan and the United States of liquefied natural gas from Yakutsk is now expected to begin in 1982 or 1983.

The natural gas project involves development of a vast natural gas deposit in a region of Yakutsk, estimated at 12,800 billion cubic meters, with Japanese and American technological and financial cooperation. In return for the cooperation, the Soviet will supply 10 billion cubic meters of liquefied natural gas each to the United States and Japan annually over a 25-year period. Existence of some 80 billion cubic meters was confirmed by last November and Soviet delegates told the just-ended meetings in Moscow that the amount of confirmed natural gas reserves in the region would reach 1 trillion cubic meters by the end of this year. Japan is also to supply millions of tons of steel tubing to be used for construction of pipelines for transporting natural gas from Sreoneye Vilyuysk in the region to Olga, about 150 kilometers northeast of Nakhodka, where the natural gas is to be shipped to Japan and the United States.

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At the just-ended Moscow meeting, Soviet delegates did not disclose its estimate of the project's cost, which is estimated at \$3,923 million by the United States and \$3,902 million by Japan.

But Nikolay Baybakov, chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee, told Anzai Saturday that the cost would be slightly over the Japanese estimate. The Soviet deputy premier also said a Soviet estimate would be presented to the Tokyo meeting in May.

According to Anzai, Baybakov also told him that it is possible for the Soviet Union to supply 30 to 35 billion cubic meters of gas to Japan from the region annually. Anzai also quoted him as saying that his country would be able to fill Japan's natural gas demand over 50 to 60 years.

NEW ECONOMIC TALKS BETWEEN JAPAN, COMMON MARKET FALTER

LD22002Y Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 22, TASS--A fresh round of talks between Japan and the Common Market on trade and economic problems is being held here in an atmosphere of acute contradictions.

Head of the EEC delegation, vice-president of the Commission of European Communities W. Haferkamp demanded that Japan buy more ready-made products in the Common Market countries and agree to preventive measures proposed by the EEC as regards some kinds of Japanese-made products.

Japanese Minister of International Trade and Industry T. Komoto said in answer that Japan was already making every effort for increasing the imports of ready-made products from Europe and suggested that exporters of the countries of the Nine take care themselves of widening the exports of their products.

Striving to end the protracted inflation and economic recession, the Japanese monopolies have launched a real offensive against the markets of their American and European partners. The deficit of the countries of the Nine in trade with Japan totalled 5.2 billion dollars in 1977.

Tokyo explains its reluctance to accept the demands of the EEC on easing import restrictions for facilitating the access of West European products into the Japanese market by the continuing difficulties in the country's economy. The sides have not settled the conflict at the preliminary talks. Local economic observers believe that the current round of talks will also be fruitless as the differences are too great.

ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY U.S. MILITARY FORCES IN JAPAN NOTED

LD231040Y Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 23 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 23, TASS--Almost 1,000 Japanese fell victim to crimes, committed by United States servicemen stationed in Japan, or perished as a result of crashes of U.S. war planes and accidents caused by other weaponry in the 25 years since the signing of the Japanese-American security treaty. These figures were announced in the Japanese parliament by a representative of the National Defence Board of Japan.

Over 140 Pentagon bases or military installations are now located on Japanese territory and 48,000 American officers and men are stationed there. Japan's democratic opinion persistently calls for the cancellation of this treaty and an end to the United States military presence in Japan.

U.S. MILITARY MANEUVERS IN ROK UNDERLINE THREAT TO ASIA

SK230800Y Moscow in Korean to Korea 1155 GMT 22 March 78 SK

[Moscow Radio commentator (Churief) article: "The Pentagon's Dangerous Strategy"]

[Text] The U.S.-South Korea joint military maneuver exercise, Team Spirit '78, and the massive mobilization of U.S. troops to the Korean Peninsula for the exercise once again showed the dangerous nature of the strategy pursued by the Pentagon in this region of Asia.

As is well known, it was the largest military maneuver exercise in Asia since the Indochina war. More than 100,000 army, air and naval troops participated in it. Numerous units of U.S. forces were sent to South Korea from the U.S. mainland, Guam, the Philippines, the Japanese mainland and from military bases in Okinawa.

During the exercise, large quantities of combat equipment were also used including F-111 strategic aircraft, F-4 Phantoms, and missiles of various kinds. The ominous silhouettes of U.S. 7th Fleet warships also appeared along the South Korean coastline, including the carrier Midway. According to a statement by U.S. Secretary of the Navy Claytor, the Midway was carrying planes loaded with nuclear bombs.

The maneuver exercise, which was carried out near the border [Kukyong] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, an independent socialist nation, was characterized by its simulation of criminal war.

The U.S. strategy toward Asia has become clear through the fact that U.S. military caste is consolidating its military bases in Asia that are used to (?hamper) the national liberation movement of the Asian peoples and to support the reactionary strata in Asia.

The United States is furnishing more and more financial and military aid to the Pak Chong-hui dictatorial regime and continuing the militarization of the regime. The United States has furnished Seoul \$5.6 billion in military aid since 1950 and granted it \$1.2 billion as a reward for two South Korean divisions participating in the war of aggression against Vietnam. It is also furnishing \$1.8 billion in aid to Seoul as compensation for the anticipated withdrawal of U.S. troops. In addition, the United States is drastically reinforcing its air and naval forces in South Korea and planning to utilize South Korea as its military base and ground for military exercises.

U.S. Defense Secretary Brown at the House (?International Relations) Committee said that U.S. forces will be reinforced in South Korea and military exercises will be carried out more frequently. The exercise, Team Spirit '78, was an actual implementation of this dangerous policy. The military maneuvers that are being intensified in South Korea by U.S. generals and the Seoul regime contradict the normalization of the Korean situation and create new stumbling blocks on the road to realizing the cherished desire of all Korean people for national reunification.

The Asian nations and world progressive social circles are bitterly denouncing the conspiracy, which is dangerous to world peace, of imperialist strata and the Seoul regime. At the same time, they are supporting the constructive DPRK proposals aimed at reunifying the nation with no outside intervention, by the Korean people themselves and in a peaceful and democratic manner.

JAPANESE PUBLIC DEMANDS END TO ARMS RACE, NUCLEAR WEAPONS

LD221504Y Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 22, TASS--A national campaign, sponsored by activists of the Japanese peace movement, is under way in Japan to collect signatures to the appeal, addressed to the U.N. General Assembly's special session, urging the earliest termination of the arms race and full prohibition of nuclear weapons.

The current campaign for elimination of the nuclear threat is entering its decisive stage. 6.5 million Japanese have already put their signatures to the appeal, TASS correspondent Vladimir Kuchko has been told by Ioshikino Ioshida, executive secretary of the United Executive Committee against Atomic and Hydrogen Weapons. Scores of trade union, women's, youth organizations, representatives of scientific and cultural public responded to the call for intensified struggle against the arms race.

Growing numbers of peace champions come out into the streets of Japanese towns every day to declare once again the need of eliminating the threat of a nuclear war, of envigorating the actions against U.S. intentions to start neutron bomb production.

Now that the United States and certain circles inside Japan are seeking to put into life the dangerous plans of further consolidation of the Japanese-American military alliance, of building up the Self-Defense Forces and aggravating tension in Asia and the Far East, the Japanese peace champions believe that one of the most important objectives of the current campaign is invigoration of united actions of the whole of the progressive public and democratic parties of the country for abrogation of the Japanese-American security treaty, rebuff to attempts of the military to push the country onto the road of militarization. "The peace-loving forces of Japan resolutely come out against the desires of the ruling circles, in violation of the Constitution, to get an access to nuclear weapons, demand a peaceful foreign policy", stressed Ioshikino Ioshida.

USSR MILITARY LEADERS ATTEND MPR ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

LD201519Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 78 p 3 LD

["Our correspondent" report under general heading: "On a Notable Date"]

[Text] On 17 March, Maj Gen T. Sodnomdarja, military and air attache to the Mongolian Embassy in the Soviet Union, held a reception to mark the 57th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army. The meeting was attended by Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, USSR deputy defense minister, marshals of various units, generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces, and veterans of the Great Patriotic War. H. Bandzragoh, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR, attended the reception.

Those present included the military, naval and air attaches accredited to the embassies of a number of foreign states in Moscow.

COLOMBIA'S PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH USSR

LD221455Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[TASS report: "Strengthening Cooperation"]

[Text] Bogota, 18 March--In the 10 years since the restoration of diplomatic relations in 1968, relations between the USSR and Colombia have made considerable progress. This is above all the result of the Soviet Union's foreign policy course aimed at strengthening international detente and developing cooperation with various countries, Colombian President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen stated.

In an interview with a TASS correspondent he noted the Soviet Union's constantly growing prestige in Latin America. Life shows, the president said, that thanks to the policy implemented by the Soviet Government in the international arena, great successes have been achieved in restraining the arms race and reducing tension. It is precisely as a result of the USSR's persistent and consistent course that the threat of a new destructive world war has been eliminated.

A. Lopez Michelsen noted the great significance for national economic development of the agreements concluded between Colombia and the USSR on trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

In conclusion the Colombian president, on behalf of the people and the government of his country, conveyed words of gratitude to the people and Government of the USSR for their immense contribution to the development of friendly relations between the two countries.

U.S., UK, GUATEMALA SELFISHLY INTERESTED IN BELIZE OIL

LD070940Y Moscow TASS in English 0732 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 7, TASS--Britain and the United States are holding backstage talks with Guatemala concerning the right of the people of Belize (British Honduras) to self-determination, ignoring the United Nations resolution on this issue, PRAVDA says today. The newspaper points out that the main cause of this interest of the two imperialist powers is the presence of oil on the territory of Belize and its maritime shelf.

Emphasising that the desire of the people of Belize for self-determination and maintenance of territorial integrity was supported at a conference of the majority of Caribbean countries, and also by Mexico and Venezuela, PRAVDA remarks that this is precisely what the United States' imperialist quarters, supporting Guatemala's unsubstantiated claims to Belize, do not want. "Washington believes that the Guatemalan military dictatorship will be able to guarantee oil deliveries to the United States more dependably than the government now functioning in Belize and gravitating towards the Caribbean countries. This stand taken by Washington also explains the unyielding attitude of Guatemala, which refuses to recognize the independence of Belize and claims a substantial part of its territory with big oil resources."

"Progressive opinion of Latin America protests against the colonialist plans of the imperialist powers and their associates vis-a-vis the people of Belize, who are striving for independence and national sovereignty," the newspaper says in conclusion.

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PRICES COMMITTEE DENIES RUMORS OF FOOD PRICE INCREASES

LD221520Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The State Committee on Prices and the Ministry of Trade have in recent days been receiving inquiries from citizens as to whether it is proposed to increase retail prices on foodstuffs.

In this connection the State Committee on Prices and the Ministry of Trade consider it essential to announce that no basis exists for such questions.

Our country consistently pursues a line aimed at insuring stability of state retail prices on principal foodstuffs and nonfood goods and at lowering prices on individual types of goods where their stocks permit.

KOSYGIN, BAYBAKOV, DYMSHITS VISIT ORENBURG, TYUMEN

LD221910Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived on 21 March in Orenburg. He visited the gas processing works and chatted with workers and engineering and technical staff.

At the CPSU Obkom, Comrade Kosygin held a conference with an oblast party-economic aktiv and gas industry specialists.

Today Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin visited Nizhnevartovsk and Surgut in Tyemenskaya Oblast, where he met with leaders of local party and soviet organizations, oil workers, other workers and specialists from industrial enterprises and the Surgut GRES.

Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin is accompanied on the trip by Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan; Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and a number of USSR ministers.

On the same day Comrade Kosygin and those accompanying him arrived in Tyumen.

TASS COMMENTATOR ON 'ANTI-SOVIET WORK' OF ROSTROPOVICH

LD221232Y Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

["Fruits of 'Self-Expression' "--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 22, TASS--TASS commentator Aleksy Petrov writes:

A few years ago Mstislav Rostropovich, together with his wife Galina Vishnevskaya, left on a trip abroad. The fact itself is by no means an outstanding one, for Rostropovich, just as other artistic figures, was not leaving this country for the first time, due to the USSR's broad cultural exchanges. Yet this time Rostropovich behaved unusually. From the very first days of their stay abroad, Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya began making pretentious anti-Soviet statements on the pages of the West German magazine STERN, the French paper LE MONDE and others, in American mass information media. They were repeatedly utilized by the Voice of America and the Deutsche Welle radio stations, and others.

What was it that interested so much correspondents in statements made by Rostropovich? Maybe these were reflections of an outstanding musician about the development of modern art, or the story of how, with the assistance of Soviet teachers, he made a career from a pupil of a children's music school to a famous virtuoso.

Alas, exalted words like "music", "art", "creative endeavour" were used by Rostropovich and his spouse Vishnevskaya for other purposes. According to his remarks at press-conference in Paris on March 17, just as in former utterings, neither he nor his wife were able to "work freely" in the Soviet Union. Such a revelation, everything indicates, amazed the STERN correspondent so much that he had to ask a few direct and penetrating questions to get the matter straight (follow questions and answers right from the above mentioned weekly):

STERN: But you appeared in Western countries when you wanted and had frequently been here.

Rostropovich: This is precisely what I could not do.

STERN: So it is true what the USSR has been constantly refuting: You were not permitted to leave the country from 1971 to 1973?

Rostropovich: It is true.

Readers perhaps will find the following statistics not without interest. According to data of the USSR Goskontsert Agency, in 1971 and 1972 Rostropovich gave concerts in Austria and Canada, the United States and France, Hungary and Japan: all in all, he spent abroad on guest tours 155 days. These figures are well known to the managers who paid his honorariums both for solo appearances and for TV recordings.

Let's go on with the statistics. As a soloist of Moscow's State Philharmonic Society, he naturally had every opportunity and all the conditions for concert activities in the Soviet country. The managing director of the Philharmonia A. Kargin informs us that in 1973 Rostropovich gave 18 concerts and continued to appear next year as well.

"Among the musicians living in the USSR," Rostropovich wrote in the pages of the Paris LE MONDE, "my family was in a special position, quite different from other artists and musicians...I was denied the possibility of self-expression."

Concerning the "special position" Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya did, indeed, enjoy it. Laureate of all kinds of competitions and prizes, professor, chief of a chair at Moscow Conservatoire, etc., etc.--are not these signs of special recognition due to talent? Titles and awards were also bestowed on Vishnevskaya (by the way, the top salary of a soloist at the Bolshoy Theatre had been secured for her till recently).

The singer Vishnevskaya, whose husband alleges that "at home she was surrounded by complete silence," sang on the stage of the Bolshoy Theatre practically all the leading parts on the repertory--in the "Queen of Spades," "Eugene Onegin," "Madama Butterfly," "La Traviata," "Semeon Kotko," and others. She was also engaged in the new productions--"Tosca," "The Tsar's Bride," "The Gambler." All throughout the years the number of her appearances was the same as of other leading soloists of the Bolshoy Theatre, which, by the way, cannot be said about her today.

So this is how, when it comes to the truth, matters stand with the notorious "self-expression" and the "restriction of creative freedom," a theme on which the spouses Rostropovich are harping on.

Another thing. In the interview given on March 17 Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya maintained that the decision to deny them Soviet citizenship came as a complete surprise to them. The hypocrisy of such statements is easy to prove. For a long time and repeatedly interviews were held with Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya at the USSR embassies in the USA, France, Austria, Denmark, and Luxembourg about their return to the USSR owing to the expiration of the terms of their visas. They were repeatedly warned of the need to round out their affairs abroad within two-three months and return home. Otherwise, they would put themselves in a position where Soviet competent bodies would have to examine the matter of their citizenship. However, Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya failed to draw any conclusions for themselves. Moreover, in an interview for the paper *FRANCE SOIR* Rostropovich stated: "The Soviet Union is a country of dead souls, where everything live and progressive is murdered. Witness the fate of my friend Solzhenitsyn."

The spouses Rostropovich have more than once publicly stated that they had no intention to return to the Soviet Union. Thus, in 1975 Rostropovich held a number of conversations with the Voice of America radio station's correspondents in which, by the way, he urged the intensification of programmes by that radio station hostile to the Soviet Union. In one of these conversations he stated: "America is becoming my homeland". In 1977 in an interview for the Deutsche Welle radio station Vishnevskaya, in reply to a question about her possible return to the USSR, said: "There is nowhere and no reason to return to the USSR". Talking to the last offspring of the Russian royal family, one V. Romanov, in May 1975, Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya spoke of the "intolerable atmosphere in the USSR," and Vishnevskaya stated that they decided not to return to the USSR and remain abroad.

Apart from the interviews and other remarks derogating the Soviet social system and the lofty name of a Soviet citizen, Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya continued to carry out anti-Soviet work. They maintain close contacts with hostile centers, organized 63 concerts, the royalties of which they handed to white-emigre organizations which for decades have been engaged in subversive activities against the USSR. Rostropovich donated 35,000 dollars to the fund of the anti-Soviet magazine *CONTINENT*, and held a number of concerts in support of renegades who had left the Soviet Union....

All this taken together ran counter to the ideas of humanism and evoked the legitimate question: Is it fitting for Soviet people, patriots of their motherland, to behave in this manner? Qualifying the actions by Rostropovich and Vishnevskaya as being incompatible with Soviet citizenship, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet decided, according to Clause 7 of the USSR Law of August 19, 1938, "On Citizenship of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" to deny USSR citizenship to Mstislav Rostropovich and Galina Vishnevskaya for actions smearing the name of a citizen of the USSR.

Why should the spouses Rostropovich now be showing hypocritical indignation? Indeed, by all their behaviour for over more than four years, they have been actually asking for it.

REPUBLICAN LEGISLATURES APPROVE DRAFT CONSTITUTIONS

ID221822Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 22 Mar 78 ID

[Text] Sessions of the supreme soviet presidiums of Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Georgia were held today to consider the draft constitutions of these republics.

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Reports were delivered in Kiev by Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the commission for preparing the draft constitution; in Baku by Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the constitutional commission; and in Tbilisi by Shevardnadze, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the commission for preparing the draft constitution.

The supreme soviet presidiums approved the draft constitutions on the whole and decided to put them out for discussion by all people in the republics.

Decrees were also adopted convening extraordinary sessions of these supreme soviets.

ARMENIAN SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM EXAMINES CONSTITUTION

NC221640Y Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0525 GMT 22 Mar 78 NC

[From the republican press review]

[Excerpts] The Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium held a meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of Babken Sarkisov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and examined the draft of the new Armenian constitution. Today's republican newspapers published the statement issued after the meeting. According to the statement, Karen Demirchyan, chairman of the constitutional commission of the Supreme Soviet and first secretary of the Armenian CP Central Committee, delivered a speech at the meeting on the new draft constitution.

The Supreme Soviet Presidium decided to submit the new Armenian draft constitution to the public for examination. It also decided to examine the draft constitution at an extraordinary session of the Armenian Supreme Soviet to be held on 11 April 1978.

SHCHERBITSKIY OPENS UKRAINIAN AWARDS CEREMONY

LD221502Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 22 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Due to the results of the all-union socialist competition in 1977, the Ukrainian SSR has been awarded the Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee. The award was presented at a meeting of party, administrative, trade union and Komsomol activists of the republic, which took place in Kiev today with the participation of leading production workers.

The meeting was opened by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee. He said 1975 will be a bright page in the heroic archives of our motherland. It was the year of the glorious 60th anniversary of Great October and the adoption of the new USSR Constitution; of a special political and labor mood among the Soviet people; of great achievements in all production sectors. Over 20 million Ukrainian workers participated in the competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of Soviet power and the formation of the Ukrainian SSR. Nearly R1 billion worth of above-plan production was marketed. A good harvest was grown: 1.128 billion poods of bread were delivered to state procurement points and over 50 million tons of sugar beets were procured.

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Comrade Novikov, deputy chairman of the RSFSR [as heard] Council of Ministers, conveyed to the participants of the meeting and all the workers of the Ukraine warm greetings and cordial congratulations on their lofty award from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Having handed over the Challenge Red Banner, he wished them new, great successes in implementing the 25th CPSU Congress decisions. Those taking part in the meeting adopted with great enthusiasm a letter to the CPSU Central Committee and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

UKRAINIAN OBKOM FIRST SECRETARIES CONFER IN KIEV

AU231045Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 22 Mar 78 AU

[Excerpt] A conference of obkom first secretaries, held in the Ukrainian CP Central Committee headquarters today, discussed additional steps to be taken to fulfill socialist pledges for the production and procurements of grain, sugar beets, sunflower seeds, fodder and stockbreeding produce in 1978.

A report on the subject was delivered by Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian CP Central Committee first secretary.

PRAVDA REPORT ON CPSU CC MEETING ON ENGINE TECHNOLOGY

LD230903Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 78 p 2 LD

[Text] TASS--a conference took place at the CPSU Central Committee on 20 March at which--with the participation of the leaders of ministries and departments; general and chief designers; directors of scientific research institutes, production associations and enterprises of the machine-building industry; leaders of the chemical, petroleum-refining and petrochemical industries, agriculture, railroad and motor transportation, maritime, fishing and river fleets--practical measures were examined for implementing the tasks of further accelerating scientific and technical progress in motor building and for improving the USSR's exploitation of motor equipment arising out of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum and the propositions and conclusions contained in the speech delivered at the plenum by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

A speech was delivered at the conference by A.P. Kirilenko, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The attention of the leaders of design bureaus, scientific research organizations, associations, enterprises, ministries and departments was directed toward the need to considerably accelerate work on creating new progressive types of internal combustion engines, increasing the life of the engines being produced, reducing the amount of metal used in manufacturing them, and, above all, making them more economical. It was also determined that a broad movement would be launched for an economical and thrifty attitude toward the expenditure of fuels and lubricants in all sectors of the national economy that use internal combustion engines.

Taking part in the work of the conference were CPSU Central Committee secretaries V.I. Dolgikh and Ya.P. Ryabov; USSR Council of Ministers deputy chairmen V.A. Kirillin, N.V. Martynov and V.N. Novikov; secretaries of a number of party kraykoms and obkoms; section chiefs and officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

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